The World's Daily Newspaper

No. 35,995



A development near Kuala Lumpur, where rents have been falling.

Too Many Cranes Spoil View of Malaysia Future Comment Blanes to Thomy Chu

KUALA LUMPUR—A city's vitality has office been ganged in Asia or
by the number of construction cranes in
dotting the skyline, and by that measure this city would seem to have one
of the region's healthiest economies.

Long after construction sites in
Bangkok and Jakarta went silent, the

cranes were still swinging in Kuala
Lumpur. Hotels, office buildings and
condominums have continued to rise
here, undged on by the government,
which views the construction industry
as vital in helping cushion the effects
of the regional economic crisis.
But today, real estate industry analysts say, the cranes are a sign that the

But today, real estate industry analysts say, the cranes are a sign that the government has ignored market signals and encouraged construction just as Malaysia faces a property glut. The government abolished a ruling this year that had discouraged banks from leading to the property sector.

declared send a consultant so when a consultant so when the global real company who spoke on the condition of anonymity. The bubble is slowly bursting but it hasn't gone pop yet. The question that everyone

Policies split onlookers. Page 17.

is asking is. 'Who's got the money, and who's going to survive?'.' To be sure, developers face a prickly dilemma when deciding if they

prickly dilemma when deciding if they should continue construction on a half-finished project in which they have already invested millions of dollars.

The most severe glut is, perhaps, in the hotel industry. In the past 18 months, at least half a dozen four- and

the hotel industry. In the past 18 months, at least haif a dozen four- and five star hotels have opened in Kuala Lumpur, including a Ritz-Carlton, Mandarin Oriental and Marriott.

See KL, Page 8

Mobs Attack Churches in Indonesia; 6 Are Killed

Religious Resentment Erupts Into Rioting Against Migrant Workers

> By Cindy Shiner Washington Post Service

JAKARTA — Muslim mobs killed six people Sunday and burned at least three churches in a riot here that initially appeared to be sparked by a dispute over a gambling hall and rumors that a mosque had been attacked.

Security forces fired shots in the air and lobbed tear gas to disperse the crowds, which ransacked the churches before setting them on fire. The Associated Press reported that five of the victims were migrants from the Indonesian island of Ambon. It was unclear where the other victim was from. His body was paraded through the streets on a cart

Dozens of people were reportedly injured, and local television stations said 10 people had been aπested.

The violence comes a little more than one week after at least 14 people were killed in anti-government demonstrations that at one point had pitted moderate Muslims against radical Islamic groups that had been hired by the military to help provide security during a special session of Parliament.

Most of the casualties in that unrest came from clashes between the military and student demonstrators. Several students were shot and killed, while other protesters were beaten to death.

Following the turmoil, rioting broke out in Jakarta's Chinatown district, and several shops were looted and burned. Rthnic Chinese, most of whom are Christian, are often targeted in Indonesia during times of political and economic turmoil.

While Chinese vigilantes gathered to protect their homes and shops Sunday evening, most of the violence appeared to have been aimed at Ambonese Christians. Ninety percent of Indonesians follow Islam. It is the world's largest Muslim country but has a secular government and a usually tolerant religious atmosphere.

Recent political strife and a devastating economic crisis have inflamed long-simmering ethnic and religious re-

A recent spate of mysterious killings of Muslim clerics and suspected black magic practitioners on the main island of Java triggered retribution killings and unleashed a wave of panic and scapegoating that led to the deaths of dozens of people. Many of them were killed by neighbors who cited witchcraft as an excuse to exact revenge for a number of

communal grievances..

Amid the recent unrest, the government of President BJ. Habibie has pledged that it is laying the groundwork

See JAKARTA, Page 6



An Indonesian soldier walking away from burning pews in front of a Roman Catholic church Sonday in Jakarta. Six people died in the violence.

UN Inspectors in Iraq See Little Chance of Success

Latest Standoff Involves Demand for Documents

By Barton Gellman

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Confronted by renewed Iraqi defiance, UN arms inspectors say they see little prospect of achieving the results that Washington has been promising in the standoff with Iraq since a military strike was barely averted a little more than a

While routine monitoring visits at Iraqi sites were conducted last week and again Saturday, it will be weeks before the UN Special Commission, or Uoscom, can plan and execute its first challenge inspections — and much longer before it regains the scent of forbidden weapons after a four-month hiatus, inspectors said.

Meanwhile, Iraq's defenders in the Security Council are preparing an inquiry that will dissect and pethaps limit Unscom's work.

Baghdad provided a new test of the inspectors' authority Friday when a junior Foreign Ministry official notified the chief inspector, Richard Botler, that

Unscom's requests for disputed weapons documents were "provocative rather than professional," and theo dismissed or deflected the queries.

(In Baghdad, the foreign minister, Mohammed Said Sahhaf, said Sunday that UN arms inspectors were asking the "impossible" of Iraq in demanding more documents, Agence France-Presse reported. "We have handed over all, all available documents" he said, adding that it was a tactic to create obstacles to lifting eight-year-old UN sanctions.

lifting eight-year-old UN sanctions.

[Mr. Sahhaf added that Iraq had already handed over 2.5 million documents on its proscribed weapons and that the commission was barraging Iraq with demands for "imaginary documents."

[Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz accused Mr. Butler on Sunday of seeking to undermine a promised Security Council review of Iraqi compliance with UN resolutions.

[But the U.S. national security adviser, Samuel Berger, accompanying

See IRAQ, Page 8

Urging Shift By NATO, Germany Angers U.S.

Leftist Coalition Seeks A No-First-Use Policy On Nuclear Weapons

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — Germany's oew governing alliance of Social Democrats and Greens is confronting its first serious clash with the United States by demanding that NATO break a hallowed strategic doctrine and adopt a oo-first-use policy regarding nuclear weapons.

use policy regarding nuclear weapons.
Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's government will insist that a new strategic concept, to be unveiled at NATO's 50th anniversary summit conference in Washington in April, should foreclose the option of resorting to nuclear weapons before any foe. The change in deterrence strategy, German officials said Sunday, is being sought as proof that Western powers are serious about moving toward onclear disarmameot.

The German demand has shocked and angered the Clinton administration, which was recently assured that the new left-leaning coalition would maintain cootinuity in Bonn's foreign and security policies. U.S. officials warned that such a dramatic shift in deterrence strategy — one that has kept the ouclear peace for over half a ceousry — could gravely undermine faith in the military commitments of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

But German officials say that fundamental changes in NATO's nuclear doctrine are long overdue now that the Soviet threat has vanished. They contend that bold initiatives such as a cofirst-use pledge are necessary to dissuade other oations from pursuing nuclear weapons and to encourage socalled threshold powers such as India and Pakistan from renouncing any recourse to arms of mass destruction.

"I have signaled to NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana that we want to talk about this, because we see things differently," Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer told the newsmagazine Der Spiegel. "We must discuss it openly in the alliance without creating the impression that Germany is going its own way."

The no-first-use pledge was enshrined in the governing program of the Social Democrats and Greens after they ousted the conservative alliance led by former Chancellor Hehrut Kohl in national elections in September. Both parties have crusaded for nuclear disarmament in the past, but they played down the issue before the elections to avoid arousing controversy among Germany's allies.

Two weeks ago, Germany stunned the United States, Britain, and France—NATO's three nuclear powers—by breaking ranks and abstaining on a motion on nuclear disarmament put for-

See NATO, Page 8

Clinton Raises Heat on North Korea

Visiting Hesitant South, He Demands Dismantling of Arms Programs

By Tren Kirk
International Herald Tribune

OSAN AIR FORCE BASE, South Korea — President Bill Clinton pledged a tough policy against North Korea in a rousing finale Sunday to a weekend dedicated in large part to bolstering a South Korean government that has seemed inclined to go easy on the North.

clined to go easy on the North.

The president, addressing several thousand U.S. troops at this base near Scoul, declared that North Korea had to stop developing nuclear arms as well as a targe of nonnuclear weapons.

The Clinton's remarks, given the set-

ting and the timing, appeared as one of the strongest challenges so far to North Korea, which is suspected of having resumed ouclear weapons development in an underground site spotted on U.S. satellite images three months ago.

satellite images three months ago.

"North Korea must maintain its freeze on and move ahead to dismantle its nuclear weapons program," Mr. Clinton, standing in front of two air force fighter planes, told the troops. "It must comply with its obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It must halt its efforts to develop and proliferate chemical and hiological weapons and ballistic missiles."

Mr. Clinton's remarks seemed considerably stronger than his comments at a joint press conference Saturday with President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea, who has enunciated a "sunshine policy" of "engagement" with the North, highlighted by efforts at widening contacts through trade and talks.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Kim, after a two-

ing contacts through trade and talks.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Kim, after a two-hour meeting that also touched on South Korea's efforts at recovering from economic crisis, appeared almost entirely in agreement as they stood side by side in the Blue House, the center of pres-

See CLINTON, Page 6

Middle Class Feels The Pain in Korea

The distress of Kim Myung Yun, a former well-paid, white-collar employee who has been reduced by unemployment to hawking hats oo the streets of Seoul, is illustrative of the pain the middle class is experiencing during the South Korean economie downturn. "I feel guilty when I look at my family," he says. "A father has certain responsibilities. A man has certain responsibilities." Page 2.



AGENDA

Rail Strike in 6 EU Nations Gets Started

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Crossword Page 21.
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The Intermarket Pages 4, 18.
The IHT on-rine committee Pages 4, 18.

Murder of Reformer Shocks St. Petersburg

The killing in St. Petersburg of Galina Starovoitova, 52, a leading liberal politician and tireless defender of Russia's democratic reforms shocked her allies, who claimed she was a victim of the country's corrupt political climate. She was a close associate of President Boris Yeltsin, who has sent top law-enforcement officials to investigate. Page 8.

BRUSSELS (Renters) — The strike planned by rail workers in Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece began Sunday night and was to cootinue until Tuesday morning. The workers are protesting the recommendation of the European Commission that governments in the 15-nation union should open 5 percent of their rail sector to competition immediately, rising to 25 percent in 10 years.

Rail priors also planned publicity

Rail unions also planned publicity campaigns in Germany, Britain and the Netherlands opposing the liberalization plans. The Eurostar shuttle between Paris and London will run normally, however.

The EU transport commissioner, Neil Kinnock, defended the executive body's proposed plans. "Our reforms are about creating the competitive conditions in which rail can prosper and flourish," he said.

Merger Fever Haunts Traders In Takeover of Bankers Trust

By Timothy L. O'Brien
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — As the board of Bankers Trust Corp. met Sunday to vote on the sale of the bank to Deutsche Bank AG of Germany for about \$9 billion, Wall Street was rife with speculation about whether a new round of megamergers and takeovers is at hand.

The expected deal, which would be the biggest takeover of a U.S. financial institution by a foreign bank, is another example of how economic globalization is forcing companies to form once unthinkable cross-border alliances.

"Companies are playing in a global space now," said David Berry, an analyst with Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Ine. "And to be in the business of financing multinational corporations, you need to have a global presence, and you need to be in the U.S. because that's where the money and the taleot are."

But analysts and bank advisers said banking executives were oot rushing to cot deals like the buge mergers and takeovers of other financial-services giants completed in the last year. Lower stock prices and an uncertain economic landscape are still combining to dampen merger fever.

merger fever.

"In many respects Bankers Trust is a unique case, and there aren't a lot of other big buyers out there," said Charles Peabody, an analyst with Mitchell Securities Inc. in New York.

In its deal for Bankers Trust, Deutsche Bank is clearly being driven

See BANKS, Page 8

President's Luck Holds on Impeachment The White House firmly believes that

By John M. Broder
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — A senior White House official, surveying the events of the past week, sighed in relief and quoted Winston Churchill on his ex-

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perience in the Boer War. "Nothing in life is so exhilarating as to be shot at without result."

without result."
Good fortune continued to shine on President Bill Clinton last week, and on Sunday further signs emerged that law-makers' appetite for impeachment was fading in fayor of a rebuke or censure.

Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, spent 12 hours before the House Judiciary Committee on Thursday and produced no new revelations of presidential vice. Democrats on the committee said Mr. Starr's most newsworthy statement was that he had found no evidence of impeachable offenses in the dismissal of White House travel office employees and the retrieval of

PBI files.

And on Friday, Samuel Dash, the independent counsel's ethics adviser, resigned, saying that Mr. Starr had abused his authority by appearing before the House panel to advocate the impeachment of the president.

War: Nothing in g as to be shot at Mr. Clinton has dodged yet another bullet. With new confidence, Mr. Clinton has dodged yet another bullet.

"Let's wrap it up," said Paul Begala, a senior. White House political connscior. "The people, the Congress and the vast bulk of constitutional scholars all believe there are no impeachable offenses here."

As the week ended, White House officials were counting votes and trying to read minds on Capitol Hill, looking for a way to short-circuit the impeachment process. Top White House aides opened lines of communication to Republicans in the House, possibly as a prelude to a negotiated way out of the impeachment mess.

The optimists in the Clinton camp

See PANEL, Page 6

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fore the House panel to anvocate impeachment of the president.

From Man in a Suit to Man on a Curb in South Korea's Crisis

By Kevin Sullivan Washington Past Service

NSAN, South Korea - Two men on bicyeles pedal up. Kim Myung Yun hops up from the curb, takes a deep breath, pulls his hands out of his pockets and musters a decent "Kookyungha-seyo!" — "Please take a look!"

It's almost noon, and there hasn't been a customer for hours. Mr. Kim feels more like a fire hydrant than a hat vendor, so be's fidgety when one of the bicyclists picks up a New York Yankees cap and checks himself out in the sideview mirror of Mr. Kim's car.

"I look good in hats," he says. "That's because they cover your face," his friend shoots back.

Mr. Kim laughs with them and re-laxes a bit. Still, for a guy who was a white-collar manager making \$40,000 a year until he was laid off five months ago, in the midst of the continuing Sooth Korean economic crisis, it's tough to work this hard for a \$4 sale.

Hours later, long after dark oo a 14-hour workday that started before dawn, Mr. Kim packs up and heads for the hourlong train ride home. He sold the Yankees cap and one other all day. Sobtracting his train fare, that gives him a profit of 25 cents.

At home late at night, Mr. Kim, 39, sits at his kitchen table beneath a tapestry of the Last Sopper on the wall, in the glow of a single neon light overhead, drinking a cup of milk. His wife woo't be home from work for at least another. from work for at least another hour. His two young daughters are doing their homework in their bedroom, so he keeps his voice down.

"I feel guilty wheo I look at my family," he says, through eyes wet with tears. "A father has certain responsibilities. A man has certain responsibilities. In my heart I want to give my wife and my daughters everything, but I can't make anything work out."

If there is joy in this bouse, it comes from a

Kim Eun Joo, 12, sets up her purple music stand in the kitchen, in the narrow space between the refrigerator and the stove. She puts her long black hair up in a ponytail, tucks her violin tightly under her chin and begins playing it with a bow half as tall as she is.

Staring hard at the somber Bach piece before her, Eun Joo plays with long, smooth strokes of the bow, which leaves a dusting of white rosin on her instrument, as though someone had sprinkled it with confectioners' sugar. The fingers of her left hand tickle and tweak the violin's oeck. Close your eyes and it could be a professional; open them and see the chipped red nail polish of

a young girl's hands.

As music fills this tiny three-room apartment. the first floor of a two-story brick huilding in Seoul, her father stares into space through a pile of pots next to the sink. He seems to know each oofe of a piece he's heard practiced a thousand times. In a day spent hawking hats to strangers.

Ean Joo finishes, bows deeply and says, "Kamsahamnida" — "Thank yoo."
"I am so proud of you," her father says.

sliding his arm around her waist.

Mr. Kim and his wife have refused to give up Eun Joo's violin lessons, which cost aboot \$460 a month, a sum they really can't afford when surviving mainly on a \$750 moothly unemployment benefit that runs out in December.



Carol Gary The Washington Pe

Kim Myung Yun with his family in Seoul. The former insurance executive lost his \$40,000a-year job and is now selling baseball caps from a car he calls the Hat Department Store.'

They already have cut piano lessons for their younger daughter, Eun Hae, 9, whose tastes run more to sports than symphonies. Bot Eun Joo shows uncommon promise as a musician, and ber parents refuse to accept, so far, at least, that nation's economie crisis might steal her future. They think if it takes that, it has taken

The family has cut the phone service at home. They want to sell their 10-year-old Daewoo car, but they would have to pay about \$500 in parking tickets first, and that's probably more than the car is worth.

Mr. Kim lost his medical insurance when be lost his job. The family now pays a small monthly fee for bare-minimum coverage. Bot when his wife, Mooo Mi Ya, fell dowo some stairs recently and required stitches on her bead and chin, the family had to pay the \$380 in doctor's hills. Still, the music comes first.

'Eun Joo prays to God every night that she can go to the United States to study at a music college," Miss Moon says. "I don't want to break her beart, hut ooe day I will have to tell her that she will never be able to do that.

"I can take twice this much pain, but I can't take it when it hurts my children."

HIS IS the pain hidden behind the doors of hundreds of thousands of South Koreau homes as families cope with the country's worst economic crisis in nearly half a century. Mr. Kim and his family are not the newly homeless beggars staring back from the covers of magazines. They are not the poor driven deeper into poverty by the crisis. It's hard to tell from the outside that their lives have been shattered. But the pain in this middle-class home is the ache South Korea will feel long after the

economists declare "recovery" and move on. For the first time in a year, the stock market is moving upward and foreign investment is trickling in. But hope is not always comfort, and a spark on the trading floors doesn't warm Mr.

Kim's feet on these cold autumn mornings. Mr. Kim knows the catch: Too many companies here gave too many people employment for life, so they are "recovering" by shedding thousands of middle managers like him. Even the optimistic government says memployment will continue to climb to almost 9 percent by next spring - four

times what it was a year ago.

Despite a college education and 14 years' experience in insurance, Mr. Kim is considered too old and too inexperienced in high-tech skills to be attractive to most companies here. Construction workers can go back to plastering walls and installing plumbing when Sooth Korea starts growing again. Bot soft-paimed managers such as Mr. Kim, many of them the first generation in their families to trade rice paddies for an office building, fret that they could be the most per-manent casualty of the Asian financial crisis.

"The more time you have to think, the harder

it is," Mr. Kim says. It is, "Mr. kim says.

In Ansan, a suburb of Scoul, rap music pounds from speakers just outside the Hot People clothes boutique. Businessmen with black briefcases stride by in a hurry, and well-dressed women on their way to the shops clickety-clack past, all avoiding a glance at Mr. Kim, who is sitting on

the dirty curb with his head down.

Mr. Kim used to be one of them: Sales chief at a hig insurance company, he was management, a suit, a comfortably middle-class provider for his family. But since his company laid off 76 workers at the end of June, he has ended up here, reading the want ads next to a noxious sewer manhole, waiting for someone to stop and shop

at his "Hat Department Store."
The "store" is his brother-in-law's car, parked on the sidewalk and covered with green mesh netting. His hat display hangs on clothes-pins hooked into the mesh --- dozens of baseball caps, ski hats with pompoms, berets. Each time Mr. Kim sells one, he and his brother-in-law split the \$1.50 profit.

Mr. Kim says he visited several vendors in

Seoul and asked them what sells best. They told him hats are cheap and sell well, so he and his hrother-in-law pooled some money and bought 100. But the way things are going with hats, it might be time to try something else—maybe fruit, they think.

"There isn't anything I haven't thought of trying," says Mr. Kim, who already has sold shoes and water filters drow to down and heen rejected by con-Secul and asked them what sells best

door-to-door and been rejected by construction foremen because of his slight stature. "I can't even count how many companies I called and went to. I have been working for an insurance company for so long, I don't know what else to do. It isn't like I just want a job where I can wear a suit. I'll take anything."

Mr. Kim's situation is so common in South Korea that everyone recognizes it and sympathizes — sometimes even the police. His hatmobile is parked illegally, and Mr. Kim can't afford the permit required to be a legal sidewalk vendor. On his first day here, he pleaded his situation to the officers who threatened to tow the car away. They still come by each day and tell him to move. But he never does, and they never

do anything about it.

It's easy to tell the newly unemployed amateurs from the people who have been on the streets all their life. The guy selling rubber gloves from a cardboard. box on the subway, shouting and laugh-ing and cajoling and charming the housewives with promises of no more

dishpan hands - he's too good at it to be a laidoff accountant or engineer forced into the streets.
But Mr. Kim, with his downcast eyes, soft voice and nervous smile — yoo'd trust him with your insurance portfolio, but yoo'd oever hire him to

run a garage sale.

"At first it was difficult for me to say anything to the people who came by, but I have to adapt to my new life," he says.

E ADMITS he has no plan for when the unemployment checks stop around-Christmas. He knows his prospects of finding work are no better than hundreds of thousands of other mea looking for jobs: He feels too 'emotionally unstable' to think

"The reality now is so tough," he says, 'I don't even want to think about one year from now." Moon Mi Ya named her beauty salon "Noel," because ber father told her it evoked Christmas and peace in English. It's one brightly litroom up two flights of rickety stairs in the middle of noisy

Once a week Miss Moon gets up before dawn to hand out fliers at the subway station. She hates doing it, but it works: The six chairs are filled with yuppic men having their brush cuts shortened and working women having their hair straightened.

"Thirty-nine is an age when you should be working," she says. "My busband was the chief salesman. He was the flower of the company, then it was all taken away from him in one day." My husband feels guilty and so sorry. He keeps

when we feel sorry for him." She says Mr. Kim comes home late at night, exhausted, legs aching and hourse from calling to customers on the street. He's lost a lot of weight, and he can sleep only a few hours a night from worry. "When I look at him sleeping, I can't help but cry," his wife says. "It's so hard to see someone I love, someone who works so hard and was so successful, in so much pain."

In Romania, Poland and Italy, Freezing Weather Kills

ROME - Cold weather engulfed much of Europe over the weekend claiming lives in Italy, Poland and Ro

Snow capped the island of Capri and
Mount Vesuvius in Naples, brought on
by a cold snap that hit parts of Italy with
the coldest temperatures in 10 years.
Three people died in freezing temperatures in Italy, while two others in

ing in a Rome apartment died of the leaking from their emergency heater.

Heavy snow also fell in Italy's northem mountains, compounding the suf-fering of hundreds still living in tem-porary housing after losing their homes last year in the devastating earthquake in the Umbria and Marche regions.

As many as 40 centimeters (16 inches) of snow fell in Umbria. The police in Poland said Sunday that the police in Poland said Stinday that at least 23 people had frozen to death during the week as temperatures plunged to minus 26 degrees centigrade (minus 15 degrees Fahrenheit). Mostof the victims were men aged 40 to 60 who had been drinking and fell asleep in the

cold, a police spokesman said.

As many as 200 lives were saved b

special police patrols that picked in-ebriated people off the streets and drove them to shelters to sober up. In Romania, road and rail traffice as paralyzed in the south and east of the country after 24 hours of constant snowfall, the Transport Ministry said Officials said that 17 people died and at least 49 were injured, many from frost-bite, as the snow continued to fall Sin-(AFP, AP, Reuters)

■ Ice Foils Russian Oil Shipment

Thick ice has again foiled attempts by a nuclear-powered icebreaker to force a passage through to the Chukotski Pen-insula so an oil tanker can ferry in urgently needed fuel supplies, Agence France-Presse reported Sunday from

The vessels are stranded about 130 kilometers (80 miles) from the villages of Pevek and Mys Shmidta, where residents are without fuel in subfreezing temperatures, the Itar-Tass news agency reported.

But despite the best efforts of the Sovietsky Soyuz, the most powerful icebreaker in the world, efforts to carve a path through to the area have failed.

Officials said the channel cleared the icebreaker had closed over with one

meter (three feet) of ice.
The tanker is loaded with 12,000 metric tons of fuel for the peninsula, which did not reteive its fuel supplies on time because of the exceptional cold conditions this year and Russia's financial crisis. Regional authorities appealed to Moscow for help this month, saying the situation was life-threatening for the 4,500 residents of the peninsu

£ .

By the end of November, the frozen Arctic Ocean surrounding the peninsula prevents icebreakers from getting through, and ships must wait until the summer to reach ports in the far northeast.

U.S. Airline Deal Takes Off Amid Suit

By Frank Swoboda ashington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Northwest Airlines Corp. and Continental Airlines Inc. have completed a "virtual merger" that effectively creates the second-largest U.S. airline, despite a government lawsuit to block the plan.

The action late Friday represents the biggest step so far in a trend toward alliances between major airlines as they seek to bolster profits and dominate routes. The new alliance links a variety of services ranging from frequeot-flier programs to reservatioo codes that allow a passenger to buy a single ticket for a trip using both airlines.

Delta Air Lines Inc. and United Air Lines Inc., and USAirways Inc. and American Airlines Inc. also have

formed marketing alliances, bot neither destabilize the deal goes as far as the Northwest-Continental arrangement, which involved a stock

It is the stock purchase that concerns the Clinton administration. The Justice Department filed suit Oct. 24 to block the alliance because of a provision that allowed Northwest to purchase 14 percent of Continental's commoo stock and 51 percent of the voting power in Continental. The airlines said the stock would be held in trust for 10 years to satisfy government objections to the

The stock was sold by the financier, David Bonderman, who had purchased the shares as an investment in 1993. Officials at Northwest and Continental said they were afraid Mr. Bonderman would sell his shares to an outsider and

Joel Klein, the top antitrust official at the department, said at the time the remment filed the lawsuit that it believed the alliance "would lead to higher ticket prices and worse service for the 4 million passengers on routes dom-inated by the two airlines."

The lawsuit addressed only the stock purchase issue, and the department said it was reserving judgment on the un-derlying issue of the alliance pending further study.

an, Gina Talamona, said Friday that "nothing we have heard" in terms of the airlines' action 'changes our view that this transaction is anti-competitive. We're moving ahead with our lawsuit, and if we prevail, the parties will have to sell the stock."

Americans Out of Iran

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN — A group of visiting
Americans accused of being U.S. spies came under attack Saturday from Islarric fundamentalists opposed to any reconciliation with the United States, the

Demonstrations Drive

Americans' vehicle near a hotel in northern Tehran where they had been staying. None of the occupants was hurt,

newspaper reported.

Wiring From Swissair Jet Shows **Evidence of Sparks Before Crash**

Agence France-Presse HALIFAX, Nova Scotia - The Canadian authorities investigating the Sept. 2 crash of a Swissair flight say they have evidence that the jet's electrical system generated sparks before

the plane went down. The Canadian Transportation Safety Board said an examination of wiring from the McDonnell Douglas MD-11 showed that "electrical arcing" had occurred

The safety board also said that it had bits of aluminum debris from parts of the jet's front section, just behind the cockpit, that had melted under intense heat. Those pieces were not far from wiring linked to individual entertainment systems installed on the plane, the agency said.

"There was some source of heat in the forward area of the aircraft," said Vic. Gerden, the chief myestigator. There was no evidence any of the jet's three engines had malfunctioned, he said. A U.S. ipvestigator, Vernon Grose, said the evidence tended "to confirm that they had a fire in the aircraft and not just smoke."

Swissair Flight I11 crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada, while en route froth New York to Geneva. Ali 229 people aboard were killed. The pilot, in emergency calls and

conversations with air traffic oschrol-lers, spoke of fire in the cockpar lisvestigators said on Sept. 8 that they had found heat stress on wreckage that appeared to have come from the cockpil:

TRAVEL UPDATE

France Braces for Strike

PARIS (Combined Dispatches) - Oo the eve of the Europe-wide rail strike, travelers in France braced for disruptions that were to slow train traffic across the country beginning Sunday evening.

The national train company, the SNCF, said that France would be heavily affected by the European strike on Monday, when railway workers in six countries were to protest liberalization plans.

The SNCF said that 280 of 680 normally scheduled trains would be operating Monday in the northeast of France and that connections to western France would also be severely disrupted. While the Eurostar TGV link between Paris and London will run as scheduled, passengers using the Eurostar service from Lille to Brussels will be transferred to buses as well as those

Britons made a record 46 million trips overseas in 1997, a 9 percent increase from 1996 and the highest growth rate for five years, the Office for National Statistics said. France was the British traveler's favorite destination, with 11.1 million vis-

(Bloomberg)

using the Thalys high-speed train from

Paris or Lille to Brussels, Amsterdam and

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government of-fices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Georgia, Japan. WEDNESDAY: Bossis-Herzegovins. THURSDAY: Mongolia, Poerto Rico, United States, Virgin Islands.

FRIDAY: Bahram, Bengiedesh, Egypt, sel, Oman, Sandi Arabia.

SUNDAY: Albania, Yugoslavia.

SATURDAY: Albania, Chad, Mass-

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Bioombery, Reviews

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iting the country.



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The Justice Department spokesworn-Kayhan said.

newspaper Kayhan reported Sunday. Chanting "Death to America," demonstrators smashed the windows of the

A senior Iranian official later went to the botel to apologize to the 13 Americans and to take them to lunch, the

But the group decided to cut its trip short and left Tehran for Washington on Saturday night, oewspapers said.

WEATHER

| The control of the - Allert Marie S Card North America

2/35: -8/12: 20/68:p. 4/30:s 15/69:p. 8/46:p.s 6/43:eh

14/57 4/59 po 17/42, 8/46 po 17/42, 10/50 64 20/50 12/52 pa 27/50 17/52 pc 22/50 24/75 c. 28/52 13/60 pc 12/50 6/49/55

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Middle East

Question of Punishment

To Congress

By James Bennet

New York Times Service

marks in weeks about the scandal shad-

owing his presidency, President Bill Clinton said with a sad smile that he was

still suffering privately over his affair with Monica Lewinsky, but that his

political punishment was strictly up to

right, personally."

He spoke in answer to a question about whether Congress should punish his behavior, during an appearance before reporters with President Kim Dae

Jung of South Korea.

Mr. Clinton smiled at first and sug-

gested that he felt plenty punished already. There has been a lot of suf-

fering," he said. "That is different from

punishment, although it's hard to see the

_,fhrough it."

difference sometimes as you're going

how Congress should act. The House Jodiciary Committee opened impeach-

dat Mr. Clinton committed perjury and obstructed justice in hiding his affair.

"I first the American people," the president said, "and I hope Congress will do the right thing in a nonpolitical

way, if you will, to get beyond the partisanship and go on.

The White House has argued that Mr.

Clinton should not be impeached for the

offenses spelled out in a report to Congress by the independent counsel Kenneth Starr. Joe Lockbart, Mr. Clinton's spokesman, said the president interpreted the question Saturday to refer not in impeachment but to some interme-

. Mr. Lockhart said that while it was

proper for the White House to resist

impeachment, it would be wrong for it

"to be in a position of trying to pre-scribe" a punishment short of that.

That Marketed

Indian Workers

By William Branigio

Washington Post Service.

WASHINGTON - In the largest

such case in U.S. history, federal agents have dismantled a global immigrant-smuggling operation that brought as many as 12,000 people, most of them Indians, into the United States over a

firee-year period at the behest of em-ployers who placed orders with the ring

for cheap, compliant workers.

Most of the illegal immigrants were smuggled in through Moscow and Cubaby a ring that operated on four continents and amassed more than \$200

diate measure, such as censure.

Bot the smile faded as Mr. Clinton said that it was "not appropriate at this time" for him to express an opinion on

SEOUL - In his most extensive re-

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Town Water

Mr. State . ξγ τος ±. γ_{α. γ} THERETO L. H. Total Same W. The second

Sec. 10. 7 - 18 to 28

3e fore!

million in samggling fees. Although the immigration and Naturalization Service described the ring as the largest, most complex and sophis-ticated that investigators have ever encountered, officials said its operations accounted for only a fraction of the hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants sanggled into the United States each year. An estimated 275,000 illegal aliens settle in the United States

annually.

Since Nov. 14, immigration agents has briefly been a suspects in five states, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas, culmination in which nating a yearlong investigation in which the agency for the first time used federal wiretapping authority granted under the 1996 immigration law. Among those picked up were two of the three alleged ringleaders — all Indians who led high-rolling lifestyles with residences in London, the Bahamas or Quito, Ecuador:

The third suspected ringleader is believed to be in India, officials said. The three are among 31 defendants who were charged with various counts alien smaggling, conspiracy and money-laundering in three indictments that were unsealed Friday in Dallas,

where the case will be prosecuted. Ten suspects are still at large: The ring smuggled mostly Indians, but also collected people from such countries as Pakistan, Syria and Afghanistan. Immigration officials said the case marked the first time that a major aliensmuggling operation has been completely

the operations from overseas havens to the smugglers who move the immigrants into the United States to the moneylaunderers who transfer the proceeds. "Our goal was to dismantle these flesh cartels from top to bottom," said Paul Coggius, the U.S. attorney in Dal-

taken down - from the kingpins who run

las. He vowed to "attack them as vig-The Coggins said the illegal minigrants were smuggled to more than 1,000 job sites in at least 38 states. He said 2 second phase of the investigation would target employers, who could face "criminal, civil and administrative penalties if

they knowingly hired illegal aliens.

The ring charged the illegal munigrams \$20,000 to \$28,000 each to be smalggled into the United States.

THE AMERICAS



WELCOME TO HAITI - President Rene Preval and his wife, right, greeting Hillary Clinton in Port au Prince on Saturday during the first lady's last stop of her seven-day tour of Central America and the Caribbean

Many in House Cool on Impeachment

By Eric Pianin and Helen Dewar WASHINGTON — Even as Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee push for articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton for lying about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, most other House Repub-

licans appear torn by the decision or eager to find a way out of the thicket. Dozens of interviews with House Republicans conducted during and after the testimony by the independent connsel Kenneth Starr revealed little enthusiasm for a protracted impeachment

What's more, a few Republicans have

began speaking out against impeaching the president, which could enhance prospects that Congress will seek a facesaving alternative - such as censure to end the year-long political crisis. "I'm very certain there are not enough votes to impeach the president," said Representative Peter King, Repub-lican of New York. While the allegations

battle with Mr. Clinton.

U.S. Dismantles

Jican of New York. While the allegations against the president may well constitute violations of the law, he said, "I do not believe they are impeachable offenses community to treason or bullery."

Allegations of the law, he said, "I do not believe they are impeachable offenses community for a laway, out, in the constitution of the law of the l

the president.

While Republicans are troubled by widespread voter disapproval of their party's handling of the impeachment party's handling of the impeachment. proceedings, many also fear that Mr. Clinton might go unpunished unless an alicenstive sauction is found. And some

lawmakers appear genuinely conflicted over whether the president's conduct merits removing him from office.
"I want to hear why these offenses are impeachable," said Representative. Jack Kingston, Republican of Georgia.
"I think that's going to be the case with lots of members. I'm not 100 percent

convinced they are impeachable. I want to know more." Mr. Starr's 12 hours of testimony Thursday may have emboldened Republican members of the Judiciary Committee in their drive for impeach-

that approach. There was little discernible evidence that the independent counsel's appear-

— while deemed impressive by ana, a leader among the House — had much impact in changing conservative activists, and Jack Quinn many -- had much impact in changing minds. And even some conservatives who have criticized the president were musing about finding creative altern-

of New York - have also said they

would oppose impeachment based oo

"I believe that the interest to impeach the president is running out of gas," Mr.

The Senate presents even more for-midable obstacles, Republicans bold 55

seats, 12 short of the 67 votes required

for conviction if all senators are present,

and some Republicans have indicated

censure and a proposal by Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, to

drop impeachment in favor of possible

criminal prosecution when Mr. Clinton

leaves office, most senators are inclined

to keep their own counsel until the full

The chairman of the Senate Judiciary

Bot, aside from private discussions of

support for a lesser sanction.

House votes on the issue.

bipartisan.

the current evidence.

Quinn said recently.

atives out of the crisis. Representative David McIntosh of Indiana, the leader of the House Republicans' conservative caucus, said he is intrigued by the idea of impeaching and convicting the president for lying about the Lewinsky matter and obstructing justice, but allowing him to complete his term with the proviso that he

could never again hold public office.
'I don't think the constitution provides for censure," he said. "It would establish a bad precedent and weaken our form of government. I do think we have to do our duty and determine whether high crimes and misdemeanors were committed. And I think

Starr provided very strong evidence of the crimes and obstruction of justice."
Five Republicans, incloding senior members of the Appropriations and Budget committees and a prominent conservative activist, have said they will vote "no" should the House Jodiciary Committee deliver articles of improachment next month.

impeachment next month.

in A handful of other moderates have which is their proposition that the Sein impeachment but are not yet ready to ate is unlikely to muster the two-thirds make that stance public.

Inalogity needed to convict and remove Some members suggested that as many as 20 Repoblicans were ready to oppose impeachment. Because the Republicans hold a fragile 16-vote majority in the current Congress and the Democrats can be expected to present a relatively solid bloc of support for the pres-

ident, such defections would virtually assure the demise of any impeachment article that reaches the House floor. Representative John Edward Porter, Republican of Illinois and a senior member of the House Appropriations

Committee, said Congress must choose some lesser form of punishment, such as formal censure, and then ''move on.'
"The purpose of impeachment is not to punish an errant president but to protect the country," Mr. Porter said. "A resolution of censure would have strong bipartisan support and would send the message" that the president's

Three Republican representatives

Christopher Shays of Connecticut, a se-

mor member of the House Budget Com-

mittee; Mark Edward Souder of Indi-

conduct is not acceptable.

Yefim Geller, 73, Is Dead;

ment, but other House Republicans are far more divided about the wisdom of

A Grand Master of Chess

NEW YORK — Yefim Geller, 73, a Ukrainian-born grand master of chess, whose penetrating technical analysis, inspired innovations and brilliant play helped the former Soviet Union almost totally dominate the game internationally for decades, died Tuesday in Moscow after a long series of illnesses. It may seem surprising that a man who

New York Times Service

serving as Boris Spassky's beleaguered second in his 1972 world championship loss to Bobby Fischer, should be such a revered figure in chess circles.

But if Mr. Geller failed to achieve phimate headline success, he was a feared attacker and discovered many in-

never won a world championship and

whose most memorable public role was

novations in venerable openings. Much of his strategy was revealed in his book, The Application of Chess Theory." Making his major tournament debut in the 1949 Soviet championships, he led until a final-round loss dropped him to a tie for third, but his showing catapulted him into the top rank of Soviet players.

In time Mr. Geller learned to moderate his fervor for attack, but it is a

that in winning his first Soviet cham-pionship in 1955 he became the only Soviet champion who has ever won the title while losing five games. Milton Kutsher, 82, Hotelier NEW YORK (NYT) - Milton Kutsher, 82, who built Kutsher's Country Club into one of the leading resorts in

the Catskill Mountains and kept it suc-

cessful even as many other top hotels in

communing tribute to his youthful daring

the region lost their allure in the 1980s and '90s, died Nov. 16 in Monticello,

New York. By the middle of the century, the Catskills in southeastern New York were famous as the Borscht Belt, a place of hotels and resorts where urban vacationers, mostly Jews still hemmed in socially by anti-Semitism, could relax

and unwind, entertained by some of the most famous names in show business. Though many resorts in the Catskills are in decline, Kutsher's continues to prosper, a tribute, many say, to Mr. Kutsher's vision. Besides the country clob, Mr. Kutsher also ran Kutsher's Sport Academy and a summer camp for chil-

dren, and was a trustee of the National Basketball Association Hall of Fame. Tetsuya Fujita, 78, Meteorologist NEW YORK (NYT) — Tetsuya Fujita, 78, a meteorologist who devised the standard scale for rating the severity of tornadoes and discovered the role of sudden violent downbursts of air that sometimes cause airplanes to crash,

died Thursday in Chicago. He had been

ill for two years. Mr. Fujita was the director of the University of Chicago Wind Research Laboratory and continued to do research until shortly before his death. With his wife, Sumiko, Mr. Pujita devised the Pujita scale of tomado wind speed and damage in 1951. In the 1970s, he collaborated in the development of a rugged cylinder of instruments carried by tornado chasers on the ground to record pressure, temperstare, electrical phenomena and wind.

POLITICAL NOTES

NEW ORLEANS --- Amid the upbear assessments about a new relationship forged last week between Republican governors and their counterparts in Congress and the national party, Governor Mike Leavitt of Utah

offered a contrary view. Mr. Leavitt said he saw little that happened here at the Republican Governors' Association meeting to suggest that assurances of a larger voice for governors would lead immediately to a dramatic change in the balance of power within the party. Nor would there be significantly greater success for the party in the legislative battles in Washington, he

"The next two years will be a study in gridlock," Mr. Leavitt said. "Neither party will have the capacity to carry a partisan agenda through

The governors' meeting may have marked another important turning point in the evolution of a Republican Party grappling not only with its disappointing performance in the midterm elections this year but the aftermath of its big victories of

was the vacuum of power that exists within the party and the governors' willingness to fill it. The turnoil in Congress since the midterm elections guarantees at least some shift in the balance even in the immediate months ahead. The departure of the House speaker, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, assures a lower pro-file for the party's coogressional wing. And the challenge to the Republican National Committee chairman, Jim Nicholson, means that he, or

What the week of private meetings and public speeches demonstrated

Away From Politics The U.S. crime rate fell in 1997, hitting the lowest level in 23 years as

a successor, will have to cater more to

Committee, Orrin Hatch of Utah, predicted in an interview Friday that the House would impeach Mr. Clintoo but said the Senate was unlikely to go through the "ordeal" of a trial unless the House vote were "significantly"

Republican Intrigue Reno Decision Due

WASHINGTON - After two years of investigating 1996 Democratic fund-raising, Attorney General Janet Reno must formally address the unanswered questions that launched the inquiry: Are President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore telling the truth when they say they followed complex campaign finance laws, go-

ing to the edge of permissible be-havior but no further? On Tuesday, Ms. Reco will announce whether she has found grounds for an independent counsel investigation of possible crimes committed during the 1996 presidential

First, she will decide whether Mr. Gore should be investigated for making false statements. Next, there is another potential perjury case, this one involving the former White House deputy chief of staff, Harold Ickes. And in three weeks she will unveil a decision on whether Mr. Clinton violated some basic elements

of federal election law. Although the department's criminal division has yet to present its recommendations and Ms. Reno has vet to begin final deliberations, there are considerable doubts among senior Justice officials and legal experts that any of the cases will result in a broad

independent counsel inquiry. (WP)

Quote/Unquote Paula Jones, who recendy settled her sexual harassment lawsuit with President Bill Clinton, saying she is oo longer interested in an apology: "I wouldn't want an apology from him anymore. It's empty. It doesn't mean anything anymore. Because he doesn't mean it. It doesn't come from

the interests of governors.

police forces reported fewer murders and robberies, the FBI said. The agency said that there were nearly 13,2 million serious offenses last year, marking the sixth straight year the oumber of crimes has good down. The overall crime rate of 4,923 of-fenses for every 100,000 U.S. res-idents decreased 3 percent from the 1996 rate and 13 percent from a decade ago. Murders and robberies showed the steepest declines, each falling 7 percent in 1997 from 1996. (Reuters)

 A small plane hit a high school cafeteria in Oakland, California. No students were hurt, but a woman wbo was a passenger in the plane was killed wheo she was thrown from the Cessna 210 that crashed into-Castlement High School. The pilot was listed in critical condition.

A NASA research place set an altitude record for a medium weight aircraft by soaring to 68,700 feet (20,800 meters), almost twice the cruising altitude of most commercial intliners. The research craft is a coursing jetliners. The research craft is a cousin of the U-2 spy planes. (AP)

Cindy Crawford's Choice



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Bosnian Economy Fails to Mend

Leaders' Self-Interest and Communist-Era Rules Bar Change

By Mike O'Connor New York Times Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnian political leaders are so good at resisting changes needed to revive the economy that diplo-mats and foreign officials say their governments now face the choice of either providing large amounts of financial aid for years or watching the country collapse.

Three years after the Dayton peace agreement, diplomats had assumed that foreign private invest-ment would have already begun to replace the \$1.5 billion in annual foreign aid. But, with the ravages of war still very obvious and an economy still run by Communist-era rules, doing business in Bosnia reinternational aid and the money spent to support foreign organizations and tens of thousands of foreigners working here.

"We urge, we push, we organize meetings, we threaten," said Didier Fau, his face contorting slightly with the frustration of being one of the top foreign officials responsible for economic reform in Bosnia. "But we are not in charge.'

the small group of politicians who "So far, in three years, two control much of the economy companies that I work with, small through their control of govern- companies, have started up." he

there is no reason for them to want

change."

"They think we can't afford to fail and we'll just keep paying," the dip-lomat said. "Maybe they are right." Only three big foreign companies have ventured into Bosnia, and their commitments are tentative.

will assemble 10 percent of the Skoda cars made at the company's plants in the Czech Republic.

Coca-Cola has a bottling venture mains so unattractive that there is in Bosnia, and DHL operates a courvery little foreign investment. The ier service. But both could fold economy survives in large part on quickly if the companies needed to get out, businesspeople said. Many of the other foreign busi-

nesspeople in Bosnia seem to be motivated less by profit than emotion. Jean Le Roch has his office across from the marketplace where a mor-tar shell killed 68 people Feb. 5. 1994. Mr. Le Roch was a French Army officer with the United Nations in Bosnia then. Now his business is to advise European compa-A Western diplomat, referring to nies interested in setting up here.

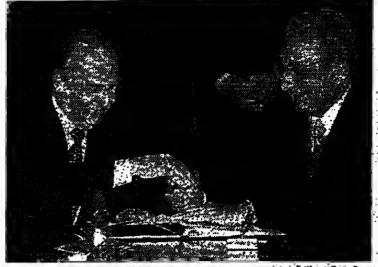
ment, said: "Anyone with the power to change the system benefits from the way the system works now, so make a profit."

"The leaders, on all sides, have learned the words to use," he said. "Free enterprise, Western style, market economy, dynamic, efficient. They say these things with great passion. But that is only superficial, nothing has changed from when this was a Communist country."

Volkswagen, which had operated a large plant just outside Sarajevo that was commandeered and wrecked by the Bosnian Serbs during the 1992-95 war, is opening a much-scaled-down operation. With about 400 workers, it is illustrated by the service of subsidized by the West, which wanted to keep the country out of the Soviet orbit

Failing state-run companies re-ceived loans from a state-run bank that kept them going and were never meant to be repaid. The economy was largely a mirage, but its man-agers mouthed the jargon and in-sisted that they practiced an en-lightened mix of Communism and

In similar fashion, Bosnian politicians now refuse to provide the kind of husiness environment that most large foreign investors demand. Foreign economists say there is often favoritism in the way taxes are collected and laws are applied. They say the lack of a commercial banking system or privatization also keeps investors away.



President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, left, and President Franjo Tudiman of Croatia, signing an agreement Sunday on closer ties.

Instead of helping investors, diplomats and foreign economists say, Bosnian leaders allow, and often profit from, corruption, tax evasion and regulations so burdensome that companies often must bribe officials or break the inw. Most workers still do not have jobs, and only 30 percent of the prewar industrial capacity has been revived.

Some countries are starting programs they hope will foster free en-terprise. The European Union is shifting about \$350 million from pro-grams to help refugees return to pro-he said. "New regulations appear grams intended to help develop the private sector, a spokesman said. The United States has a \$278 mil-

lion loan program for Bosnian busi- books so the government can't find nesses, part of a \$766 million re- it, because they would take it."

construction project. It also pays \$25 million a year for programs giving technical advice on new laws and regulations intended to open the economy to investment.

These allowed the deputy min-

ister of foreign trade, Seadeta Ceric, to say: "Our economy is now very open and very friendly for foreign investments. No one should have any problems here."

Not so, an American investor

overnight and get applied retroactively. Every official has his hand out. I'm making money, but it's all off the

Detained Palestinians Begin Hunger Strike

JERUSALEM - Palestinian prisoners in an Israeli prison began a fast Sunday to protest Israel's refusal to

prison began a tast Sunday to protest isract's refusal to free them under a new peace deal and accused the Palestinian leadership of neglecting their cause.

"Fatah prisoners in Megiddo prison have started today an open-ended hunger strike," a Fatah detainee in the prison said by telephone. "It will spread to other jails," Angry prisoners belonging to President Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction threatened to stop backing

peace moves if they were not released.

It was not immediately clear how many prisoners were observing the protest. An Israeli Army spokesman con-firmed that a few prisoners belonging to Fatah had started

Palestinian and Israeli officials disagree over the numbers and categories of Palestinians to be freed from Israeli jails under the U.S.-brokered Wye River accord signed at

the White House on Oct. 23. Mr. Arafat said Israel's inclusion of 150 common criminals in a release of 250 prisoners violated the spirit

of the accord. But a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv said Washington, which welcomed Israel's withdrawal on Friday from parts of the West Bank under the deal, "was not aware of any violations of the Wye River accords. The Israeli public security minister, Avigdor Kahalani, said that Israel would not release "people who murdered

our children."

"The numbers reached in Washington were 750 prisoners to be freed, about 200 of them security prisoners, what the Palestinians call political prisoners, and the test

of them criminal prisoners," Mr. Kahalani said. Palestinian policemen, meanwhile, took control of eight more West Bank villages Sunday after the Israeli military's withdrawal under the Wye accord. (Reuters, AFP)



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Ankara Retaliates Against Rome For Release of Rebel, Italian Firms Barred From Defense Contracts

ANKARA - Turkey hit back at Italy on Sunday for releasing the Kurdish guerrilla leader Abdullah Ocalan by barring Italian companies from bidding for any Turkish defense contracts and saying that further measures were possible.

The two NATO partners are deeply divided over the fate of Mr. Ocalan, who is wanted in Turkey for treason and in-volvement in more than 29,000 deaths. An Italian court released Mr. Ocalan, leader of the Kurdish Workers' Party, on Friday but ordered him to stay in Rome in case Germany sought his extradition. An arrest warrant for Mr. Ocalan was

issued in Germany in 1990.
We will not invite a single Italian firm to participate in contracts to meet the needs of our defense industry or our armed forces," state-run Anatolian News Agency quoted Defense Minister

Ismet Sezgin as saying

meccanica SpA Agusta, of Italy, was a candidate for a \$3.5 billion contract to build 145 attack helicopters.

dia to a contract where they can be death penalty.

Germany could still seek the extra-dirion of Mr. Ocalan but said last week it

"We shall protest to NATO about the Italian government," Mr. Sezgin said. "We shall re-evaluate our relations with Italy in all areas of the economy, not just the defense industry, and we shall do whatever needs to be done."

Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz said earlier that Turkey could retaliate.

"The Italian government ignorantly opened its arms to the world's bloodiest terrorist," Mr. Yilmaz told a convention of his Motherland Party this weekend. "The whole world should know that if Italy persists in this disgrace, Turkey will not leave it manswered," be said.

Italy has refused to send Mr. Ocalan, who arrived this month seeking asylum, to Turkey, saying the constitution pre-vented Rome from sending people for

trial to a country where they could face

did not intend to. He is wanted there for incitement to murder, and German police said Sunday they were investigating whether his group had abducted chil-dren to be trained for guerrilla warfare.

Protests and boycous of halian products grew in Turkey over the weekend. The state-run arms concern had stopped imports of Italian weapons and ammunition valued at \$300 million an-

mually, newspapers said Sunday. Tens of thousands of Turks took to the streets Sunday to protest Rome's decision. Nearly 130,000 demonstrators paraded in the central city of Kayseri to demand Mr. Ocalan be handed over, and in Ankara, a thousand people protested outside the Italian Embassy, Anatolian



A Turkish woman with a photo of her son, killed in Turkey's war against Kurdish guerriflas, marching Sunday at the Italian consulate in Istanbul.

France Signs Deal

المكانات الليطاء

For Purchase of

American Center

The Associated Press PARIS — The American Center, which before going bankrupt was the premier showcase for U.S. art and culture in Paris, is selling its high-tecb headquarters to the

French government, officials said. The Culture Ministry said in a statement that it signed a deal Friday to purchase the building, which was designed by the California-based architect Frank Gehry. The price and date of the purchase were

not made public. The ministry said in July that it would acquire the building and re-name it La Maison du Cinema. showing films there and offering courses on movie history. It will also bouse a library and film archive. The ministry said it will

open in two years.

The independent American Center was a key European venue for American artists, including the choreographer Merce Cunningham, the avant-garde musician John Cage

and the pop artist Andy Warhol.

It moved from its Left Bank home to the architectural jewel in southeast Paris, a \$42 million investment. But an economic downtum put a dent in donations, and an \$18 million endowment never materialized. The center went bankrupt in 1996.

BRIEFLY

German Unity Shows Signs of Cracking

BONN - Another chunk fell off the new government's facade of unity over the weekend when the Social Democrat who leads the industrial heartland in Germany criticized his own party's tax

Wolfgang Clement, premier of North Rhine-Westpbalia state, wrote to Chan-cellor Gerhard Schroeder and Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine, his fellow Social Democrats, urging them to reconsider new policies that have unleashed a hailstorm of attacks.

According to Focus magazine, Mr. Clement charged that the reforms, which will fund a lower income tax by closing loopholes, and fund lower payroll costs by raising the energy tax, would cost businesses 30 billion Deutsche marks (\$17.80 billioo). "Unless we make corrections to the planned tax measures we must expect negative effects on growth and employment, was quoted as saying.

IRA Denies Reports Of Secret Meeting

DUBLIN - Irish Republicans on Sunday dismissed a newspaper report that IRA guerrillas were bolding a secret conference that might try to ease a disarmament dispute stalling the Northern Irish peace process. "This is rubbisb," one source said.

The Sunday Tribune said the outlawed Irish Republican Army was meeting to review its truce in its long war against British rule. It said the IRA might also debate whether to give its Sinn Fein political wing a freer hand in defusing an impasse over the fate of the IRA's vast hiddeo arsenals. (Reucrs)

Wind Sends Ferry Into Baltic Quay

HELSINKI - A Finnish ferry with 2,600 people oo board crashed into a quayside in heavy winds in the Baltic Sea in the middle of the night, but no one was injured, the Finnish news agency STT reported Sunday.

The Silja Europa, en route from the Finnish western city of Turku to Stockholm, rammed into the quayside in winds of up to 20 meters a second (45 mpb) during a scheduled stopover in the Aland islands, a Silja Line representative told STT. The vessel was slightly damaged.

The ship was due to return to Turku on Sunday, with most of the passeogers on board. (AP) on board.

Pinochet Case Puts Several Landmark Laws on Trial

The general will

claim immunity if

genocide applies.

not be able to

By Marlise Simons New York Times Service

MADRID — As judges in Britain deliberate the fate of General Augusto Pinochet, the former Chilean dictator, the rarefied world of international law has been sent into a flurry of activity. with lawyers issuing papers and opinon what they see as a case with

Many scholars and jurists regard the general's unexpected arrest in London on charges of genocide and murder, and a request for his extradition by Spain, as an unusual chance to test high-minded human rights conventions that oblige countries to prosecute great arrocities but are invariably ignored. Even when Pol Pot was detained before his death, some experts note, no country was willing to seek his extradition and try him for his role in the deaths of more than 1 million Cambodians.

Most important, some experts say, the Amochet case will test whether Britain is dilling to let its international human rights commitments prevail over a domestic law giving immunity to heads of state, Second, they say, it will test whether a former dictator with a disastrons human rights record can be tried for crimes against humanity by a national court in a country that is not his own. A. decision from the House of Lords in

ably been held in international tribunals. Spain is bound. As nations sign and

So it was considered all the more quixotic when in 1996 the best-known investigating judge in Spain brought suits against the military leaders of Argentina and Chile, where the governing rightists mounted particularly cruel repressions

of leftists in the 1970s. The judge, Baltasar Garzon, who is famous in Spain for taking on high-profile cases, at first aimed his inquiry at the fate of Spanish citizens. Several hundred Spaniards or their descendants

were tortured, killed or "disappeared" in the repression. Laws dating back to the colonial era give Spanish courts the right to investigate the plight of their citizens abroad.

But Judge Garzon reached further. He also invoked a Spanish law that gives the courts jurisdiction over a series of crimes

outside the national territory," including crimes of terrorism and genocide. The judge used this law - adopted in 1985 but based on previous statutes — to charge General Pinochet with torture,

committed by Spaniards or foreigners

terrorism and genocide. .. And it was this law and a series of international laws that Judge Garzon used to order the general's arrest and seek his extradition.

London is expected Wednesday.

Experts in Madrid say the Spanish law he invoked essentially reflects the international conventions to which

ratify conventions and treaties, they must adapt their domestic laws to their new commitments. And Spain has signed most parts of the evolving body of international human rights law that has come into being since 1945.

The Spanish arrest warrant for General Pinochet also cites nine international conventions and resolutions dealing with human rights that the Pinochet regime is said to have violated, including the international convention

against genocide of 1948 and the coovention against torture of

The binding conveclate that countries must punish people guilty of violations, no matter what their rank or status

or where the crimes took place. Several of the covenants that General Pinochet is accused of having violated also deal with "crimes against humanity," commonly defined as grave human rights crimes that are "systematic and widespread." The Spanish judge holds that torture, killings and the "dis-

appearing" of people were indeed sys-tematic and widespread.

Further, the judge charges the general with genocide because he tried to destroy an entire group of people, namely his opponents. Some experts in international law maintain that while Judge

charge of genocide is the weakest. They argue that events in Chile did not meet the genocide definition under international law because people were killed for belonging to a political group and not to "a national, ethnic, racial or religious group." Judge Garzon has argued that the definition of genocide bas been evolving and bas in several in-stances included political persecution.

If genocide does apply. General Pinochet will be unable to claim immunity, as he has, because the 1948 international convention against geoocide makes oo exceptions for anyone. Britain, Spain and Chile have signed the convention.

Another United Nations declaration, signed in 1989 and dealing with the investigation of extralegal, arbitrary and summary executions, says that governments must try suspects or extradite them to other countries wanting to try them, "irrespective of who and where the perpetrators or the victims are, their nationalities or where the offense was committed."

But it is the Convention Against Torture, also signed by Britain and Spain, as well as Chile, that is seen as particularly relevant. It says that any country that has signed the treaty must put "the alleged offender" oo trial if he is present on its territory, a clause that makes General Pinochet vulnerable to British law. The convention says that if the country does not try such an offender, it must ex-Garzon has sufficient evidence for his charges of torture and terrorism, his case that would be Spain.



420 03#

INTERNATIONAL

Leave the Guy Alone, Troops Say as Clinton Visits Korea

By Don Kirk rnational Herald Tribus

OSAN AIR FORCE BASE, South Korea — On a near-freezing pale-gray day on the tarmac of this U.S. Air Force base south of Seoul, President Bill Clin-ton did not have to offer any explanations for his conduct to GIs, most of them bere on one-year tours without

"They should just leave him alone," said Private First Class Robert Hen-zerling, 22, who was bused to the base from an army post just south of the Demilitarized Zone that divides Korea. 'They're putting their time on him when they should worry about Iraq. They

should leave the goy alone."
Not all the 3,000 GIs on the tarmac with Monica Lewinsky, but it seemed most were on his side as they waited two hours for him to arrive for a morale-

Clinton had done to prompt a special prosecutor's investigation and impeachment hearings was "his personal business, and everybody should stay out of

helicopter, going to church, shaking proud.



maintained that the president should be President Clinton celebrating with Charles Thomas on the command sergeant major's birthday Sunday. entirely forgiven for his relationship

hands, singing "Happy Birthday" and even holding a baby or two, as though he were oo the campaign trail in an election

boosting speech.
"I love him, he's my president," said an air force technical sergeant, Harriet Hicks, 36. Beside ber, Senior Airman he was sure to win.

Images of the prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, and the congressional impeachment hearings were very much on the Yolanda Byrd said that whatever Mr. minds of GIs who see and hear American oetwork oewscasts regularly on the U.S. Armed Forces Network, but for the most part the troops were heartened that the

president was among them.
"He got a lot of soldiers' and sailors' It was that kind of day for Mr. Clinton.

Clad in a dark-green military wind-breaker, wearing a baseball that said "President Clintoo" on the back, be troops in Korea for having "made the flew from base to base on a Marine world a better place" and "made us very

troops, however, when he said be did not amid rugged peaks and valleys north of think Mr. Clinton should be entirely

I'd get booted."

He added, "If I had to pay the price, wby doesn't he have to pay the price?" But in his visits to bases, there were no embarrassing questions or public com-ments about Mr. Clinton's troubles oo

Mr. Dietrich, based in the port city of church at the Yongsan army garrison, Pusan in the southeast, expressed the outlook of a significant minority of the Korea, then flew to a training center set the capital. He personally promoted one soldier from private first class to spe-Asked if he thought Mr. Clinton cialist fourth class, then sang "Happy should be punished in some say, be Birthday" for Command Sergeant Maresponded: "In a way, I think he should jor Charles Thomas. "It definitely if something like that happened to me, caught me off guard," Mr. Thomas

Mr. Clinton's visit may have reached a high point of sheer entertainment Saturday night, bowever, when he watched from off-stage as his half-brother, Roger ments about Mr. Clinton's troubles of the home front.

The president began with a church service at Memorial Chapel, a Protestant from the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

CLINTON: President Presses North Korea

Continued from Page 1

idential power, discussing policy with tegard to the North.

Mr. Clinton, speaking several days after the North rebuffed efforts of a senior U.S. diplomatic mission to inspect the underground site, said the United States had made clear that Pyongyang "must satisfy our concerns and that further provocation will threaten the progress we have made."

Mr. Kim, who has been reluciant to use

strong language in the face of a series of provocations this year by North Korea, said "all necessary steps must be taken to clarify the purpose and nature of the mederground sites," including others where the North may be developing weapons. He vowed that South Korea would not "tolerate any possible attenuately North. "tolerate any possible attempt by North Korea to prohierate nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction."

Before the meeting, however, the United States and South Korea were at

odds over just how strong a view to take of the underground site at Kumchangni, most dangerous battleground, defending about 50 kilometers (30 miles) northwest of North Korea's nuclear complex chemical and biological attacks." at Yongbyon. Charles Kartman, the special envoy

who led the U.S. delegation to Pyongyang for two days of talks last week, issued an extraordinary "clarification" Saturday designed to allay Mr. Kim's specific condesigned to allay Mr. Kim's specific concerns about the U.S. position. Mr. Kartman said he wanted to amend his statement earlier that there was "compelling
evidence" that the site was "intended to

U.S. officials insisted there was "no man said he wanted to amend his state-ment earlier that there was "compelling evidence" that the site was "intended to be used for nuclear-related activities."

In his clarification, Mr. Kartman stated, as Mr. Kim had pointedly done Friday, that "we lack conclusive evidence that the intended purpose" of the site is nuclear related. If the site is for ouclear activities, he added, intelligence analysts do not know "what type of nuclear fa-cility it might be." Thus, he concluded, "full access to this size" is required.

Officials said the North had made a show of abiding by an agreement reached. Koreans not to yie in Geneva in 1994 in which it promised to of protectionism.

give up development of nuclear weapers in return for construction of two ouclear reactors to fill the country's energy needs

U.S. Energy Department officials are in Yongbyon monitoring adherence.

Mr. Clinton, who gave the crisis over Iraq as the reason for canceling a visit to Malaysia last week for the annual ses-sion of heads of state of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group, takes off early Monday for a day in Guam, home of another major U.S. air base, before flying to Washingtoo in the evening.

He indicated Sunday that one reason he

chose to come to the base in South Korea was that the military danger on the Korean peninsula might be almost at the same level as that with Iraq Citing "weapons of mass destruction" as "one of the greatest threats the world new faces," said that "our attention lately has be focused on Iraq's efforts in that area

"North Korea is also a major con-cern," he said, and this base, home of fighter jets just a few minutes' flying time from the North, is "critical to this most dangerous battleground, deterring

Mr. Chinton, choosing words far stronger than any used by Mr. Kim, said that "signs of danger have intensified," ranging from submarine incursions into the South to the firing of a missile over

daylight" between the views of Mr. Clinton and Mr. Kim regarding the North, but they acknowledged differences between the United States and South Korea on trade issoes.

Commerce Secretary William Day, who accompanied Mr. Clinton on the trip, hold American businessmen Sal-urday that "many of us feel that the 1998 financial crisis will become the 1999 trading crisis." Mr. Clinton urged Koreans not to yield to the "temptation

The best way to understand someone is to share the same view.



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PANEL: The Gods Continue to Smile on Clinton

Continued from Page 1

Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee to vote against articles of impeachment, bringing a quick end to the matter.

But even the pessimists at the White House were increasingly hopeful of a rapid and favorable exit, believing that they had a decent chance of defeating an impeachment resolution on the House floor.

Mr. Starr's appearance before the Jodiciary Committee was intended by the Republicans to showcase the prosecutor's bill of particulars against the president. Instead, the hearing laid bare the deep partisanship of the committee and the charged political nature of the impeachment inquiry itself.

ing laid bare the deep partisanant of the committee and the charged political nature of the impeachment inquiry itself.

"What people are going to remember from Presse reported from Washington.

"We are not going to have impeachment."

and only the Republican members — giving said Senator-elief charles Schumer of New Ken Starr a standing ovation at the end of his York, predicting that 40 to 60 Republicans restington.

White House ad would not be able to master enough votes to pass an impeachment,"

"We are not going to have impeachment."

The said a senior white House ad would vote against such a measure. He said he viser. "The wheels are coming off their wag- would urge Republican leaders "to come up on meaning the conglomeration of the Office with a suitable punishment" — censure or on, meaning the conglomeration of the Office of Independent Counsel" and the Repubrebuke — "so the next Congress can get on licans. "What they have accomplished is to with the business of the American people," he trade Newt Gingrich for Ken Starr as the said on CBS television.

public face of the Republican Party."

Republicans were more

Starr's impeachment report. Lawyers have been working on the responses for two weeks, but do not expect to submit them to the committee before Tuesday, after Mr. Clinton re-turns from a six-day trip to Asia. The president must approve the document before it is forwarded to the panel, a White House side said.

But a lawyer working on the matter, who insisted on anonymity, said the White House was oot stonewalling the committee. Some of the questions are "tricky," he said, adding that "there is no strategy to push it over to January," when a new, more closely divided Congress is seated.

While the cards continue to fall the president's way, Mr. Clinton's fate is still largely in the hands of Congress.

The White House is looking to Representative Bob Livingston, soon to be speaker of the House, to signal his intentions. He said last week that he boped to have the matter resolved by the end of the year - an intention also expressed by Representative Henry House before they backed down.

Hyde, chairman of the Judiciary Committee But Mr. Livingston said Congress was still away two or three awaiting resolution of a new matter raised by Mr. Starr, the complaint of Kathleen Willey that Mr. Clinton made an unwanted sexual advance near the Oval Office. The Judiciary Committee voted early Friday to issue foursubpoenas to witnesses who may have information about the incident and about al-

> keep it quiet. ■ Democrats Urge Lesser Punishment

legations that Mrs. Willey was persuaded to

In televised interviews Sanday, leading Democrats urged lawmakers to opt for a lesser punishment, amid runous that Republicans

Republicans were more circumspect about. On another front, White Hoose lawyers con- how to punish the president over allegations tinued to work on answers to a catalogue of \$1 of perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of questions put to Mr. Clinton relating to Mr. power. But their thetoric on impeaching the president over the Monica Lewinsky sex-andperjury scandal seemed to soften.

Mr. Livingston reiterated that Republicans should vote their consciences. Member "shouldn't feel obliged by his party or by pressures from one sector or another to shy away from it, or to vote in any one way other than that which his conscience dictates," he said on NBC television.

Asa Hutchinson, Republican of Arkansas and a member of the House Judiciary Committee, said: "We are waiting for the president's defense. He needs to present that, but I have concluded I will not make a final decision until I hear the president's defense, until we have the debate, and all options should be on the table."

But he told CBS that "Republicans are not

too excited about a censure, believing it's outside the Constitution." Other Republicans indicated that they needed further concessions from the White

JAKARTA: 6 Are Killed in Riots

Continued from Page 1

for democracy after 32 years of authoritarian rule. President Suharto stepped down in May after widespread protests and rioting that left at least 1,200 people dead.

Critics of Mr. Habibie, who was a protege of Mr. Suharto's, accuse him of trying to

prolong his rule and say they doubt that his administration is truly committed to political reform. In the meantime, public confidence in the ability of the security forces to keep a lid on lawlessness is at an all-time low. Mistrust grew deeper following the shooting deaths of studeot protesters and revelations of widespread human rights abuses during the Suharto era.

■ New Inquiry Into Suharto Wealth

A government official has announced that Mr. Habibie would set up a commission to investigate the wealth of ousted former President Subarto, news agencies reported

State Secretary Akbar Tanjung said Sat-urday that the commission would be formed soon after consultations with key ministers said Saturday the former president was ready including the defense minister. General Wirfor any inquiry into his rule and wealth:
anto. "The commission will comprise people On Sunday, the Indonesian military said that have integrity and high credibility." Mr. bullets had been found in the victure of

He said the investigation would include charities and foundations headed by Mr.

Subarto, but he did not say if it would extend allegations that its soldiers disobeyed orders to the former leader's family and friends, and fired live rounds instead of plastic bullets.

Australia, who met Mr. Subarto on Thursday, soldiers property.



General Wiranto, the defense minister, peaking to reporters in Jakarta on Sunday about the rioting in the capital.

oleace of just over a week ago, but denied the

many of whom are business leaders. Some or blanks during the protests. A military newspapers estimate the Subarto family spokesman Syamsu Ma ari, said the military amassed \$40 billion during his rule. amassed \$40 billion during his rule. had disciplined at least 163 troops, including Former Prime Minister Paul Keating of 12 officers, who had failed to command their

In China, a Battle to Turn Tide to Save Environment

But Flood Disaster Highlights Policy Problems

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

YANGKIN, China — As the waters from China's worst flood since 1954. recede in the Yangtze River valley, many people here are hoping that last summer's disaster will become a turning point for China: a warning to the world's most populous country that it can no longer ravage its environment as

it rushes to modernity.

Over the past few months, the State
China's cabinet, has issued stern notices, prompted in part by the stern notices, prompted in part by the catastrophe that left 3,656 people dead and doused 64 million acres of land. It has banned most logging in Sichuan Province to halt the massive soil erosion that contributed to the deluge. It has prohibited further land reclamation projects that squeezed the Yangtze's flood plain. It has earmarked \$2 billion to reforest barren hills in the Yangtze's upper reaches. "Sustainable development" is the new buzzword among Chinese economists and officials.

But a weeklong trip to a flood-stricken region of Hubei Province iflustrates the difficulty China's central government will face in bringing even the smallest changes to a development model that has taken China's envir-

onment to the brink of crisis. While officials in Beijing, such as sident Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, speak in sweeping terms about protecting the environment for tomorrow, local officials are busy worrying about today. While Beijing's leaders promulgate stringent regulations designed to protect the Yangize's watershed, local officials wonder who is going to pay for them — and look for ways around the bans.

nle on the

The future of the environment is one of China's most serious issues. Environ-mental concerns routinely lead the list of citizens' complaints in public opinion polls. China's environment is also a serious issue for the world as a whole. By early next century, China will probably produce more greenhouse gases than the United States, the world's No. 1 polluter. "If we had embraced environmental issues years ago, we wouldn't have these problems today," said Liang Congjie, the president of Friends of Nature, one of China's few semi-independent environ-

mental organizations.

To understand the complex issues bedeviling China's government, jour-ney to Yangxin, a river-crossed county on the southern banks of the Yangtze in Hubei Province, 800 miles (1,300 ki-

lometers) from Beijing.
Since the mid-1970s, the county government has emptied 104 lakes and turned the lake bottoms into cotton fields and housing projects. It has moved more than 40,000 people into these areas from poor regions in the footbills of the forbidding Mufu mountains to the south. In all, the county's population has soared from 400,000 to 900,000 since the 1949 revolution.

This pattern has been repeated throughout the Yangtze River basin.

throughout the Yangtze River basin.
Land reclamation has chopped 30 percent off the area of Dongting and Poyang lakes, two of China's largest bodies of water, in less than 30 years. The population of the river valley has more than doubled since 1949, to about 200

million people.

During this year's floods, the Yangtze's flow peaked at less than 2 million cubic feet (56,600 cubic meters) per second, a rate it had surpassed 23 times since 1949, Chinese statistics say.



DRILL FOR BIG CHILL - Shovel-wielding soldiers of the People's Liberation Army marching in Beijing while on snow-clearing duty Sunday. North China was blanketed with snow Saturday.

So by any measure, this year's flow should not have been a problem. But the combination of land reclamation and population growth created an environmental time bomb. It exploded in Au-

When the Yangtze's waters roared through Yangxin last summer, the lake beds, which used to soak up excess water, became giant traps. Throughout the region, more than 5.6 million houses were washed away; the disaster caused \$30 billion in damage and affected 230 million people, said Niu Maccheng, vice

director of China's flood control bureau.

"My pockets are empty," said Xo
Xinbin, the harried chief of Yangxin
County, as he stood on a crumhling embankment watching a man in a cance attempt to paddle into the door of his waterlogged home. "We are in difficult

But for Mr. Xo and other county chiefs like him, turning back the clock is not an option. The reclaimed lakes cannot really be restored, he said, asking, "What am I going to do with the people

send them back to the mountains?" The money they generate in crops and thus taxes is also a key to the county's economic health. In addition, if water is returned to the lake beds, Mr. Xn said, another problem will come back to haunt the county — the snails that host the "blood-sucking insects" that cause the deadly parasitic disease schistosomiasis, and thrive in the moist soil along the hanks of southern China's rivers and lakes. "We look at it this way," Mr. Xu said. 'The blood-sucking insect can wipe out a whole village, a whole county forever. The floods just come once every 10 years.'

Some Chinese officials say that a key reason they fear China will have dif-ficulties learning the lesson of the floods concerns the way the country is governed. China deals with crises by issuing proclamations and hlanket bans from Beijing. Bot the bans, poorly thought out and badly implemented, rarely work. Little effort is made to coordinate policy with county chiefs such as Mr. Xu, who then must implement the rules.

Mahathir Says Gore Humiliated Malaysians

Prime Minister Sees Foreign Press 'Agenda'

KUALA LUMPUR - Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad accused Vice President Al Gore on Sanday of humiliating Malaysians and charged the foreign news media with having a "certain agenda" against his country.

Speaking in the northern city of Ku-ala Kangsar, Mr. Mahathir said he was "impressed" hy the outpouring of national indignation in response to Mr. Gore's remarks praising supporters of the ousted deputy prime minister. An-

"They voiced their stand because they were disappointed and humiliated by his disrespectful remarks," Mr. Mahathir was quoted as saying by the of-ficial Bernama news agency. "I'm im-pressed by their stand, as this is the real

Mr. Gore praised supporters of Mr. Anwar as "brave" during a speech here last week, unleashing a torrent of outrage from indignant politicians who said he should not interfere in Malaysian affairs. Malaysian newspapers joined in

the criticism of Mr. Gore. Mr. Anwar was fired by Mr. Mahathir in September and arrested two-and-ahalf weeks later after leading a massive anti-government protest in Kuala Lumpur. He is on trial on corruption and

sodomy charges.

Mr. Mahathir accused the foreign media of trying to "deny us the rights to air our views. That's why we see the foreign media reports were suited to their needs. They have a certain

Mr. Mahathir, who recently banned the foreign media from covering his press conferences, added: 'I was told they have reached a stage where they show my pictures to children and tell them people

like this must be beheaded."

The government announced plans for a nationwide campaign this week that it says will allow people to veni their frustrations over what it calls foreign

"The purpose is to get a true picture of the feelings of the 20 million Malaysians about problems facing the country," Information Minister Mohammed Rahmat was quoted as saying.

An opposition leader, Lim Kit Siang, warned of a government crackdown on dissents after the arrest Saturday of Tian Chua, who heads an opposition coali-

Mr. Tian was among four people detained after police used water cannon to disperse up to 200 protesters at a Muslim oeighborhood in Kuala Lumpur. Reporters and camera crews at the protest were ordered to stay behind po-

Protesters had gathered outside a mosque in the Kampung Baru district after Muslim evening prayers, shouting "reform" and "down with Ma-

Mr. Lim said the arrest of Mr. Tian, who was later released, might mark "a massive crackdown against dissent in Malaysia, nshering a new dark age for democracy in the country" and called for his immediate and unconditional re-

Since the firing of Mr. Anwar, his supporters have mounted weekly demonstrations calling on Mr. Mahathir

to end his 17-year rule,
But on Sunday, hundreds of supporters of Mr. Mahathir in oorthern Perlis
state burned an effigy of Mr. Gore and carried banners condemning him at a one-hour gathering, Bernama reported.

Obuchi's New Ally Calls for Elections

TOKYO — The Liberal Party leader, Ichiro Ozawa, called Sunday for parliamentary elections to be held as quickly as possible and threatened to withdraw from a coalition with Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's Liberal Democratic Party if the prime minister failed to honor commitments made when the coalition was formed last week.

Mr. Ozawa also dashed hopes in world financial markets that the coalition would sheep and agreement on reducing or suspending the national sales tax.

Heral Democrats might try to go paca, on some of the more sensitive parts of the agreement, Mr. Ozawa said on Asahi television:

These are all agreed to by the highest office, the prime minister of Japan. I believe that the promises will be kept, and if they are not, we will cancel the coalition.

In an opinion poll published in Sunday in the Asahi Shimbun, 45 percent of respondents said they were opposed to the coalition, while 29 percent supported it. The survey of 1,561 voters also showed that support for Mr. Obuchi's cabinet had fallen to 21 percent, the lowest level since the cabinet was formed in July, which Mr. Obuchi won the party leadership. Commenting on speculation that the Lib-when Mr. Obuchi won the party leadership.

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BRIEFLY

East Timor Toll Put at 44 Dead

LISBON — A former governor of East Timor said Sunday that 44 people had been killed during a military crack-down in the territory, which Indonesia controls.

The former governor, Mario Carrascalao, told the Portuguese news agency Lusa that he had confirmed the death toll with sources who had reached the district of Alas on Timor's southern coast

Portugal suspended UNbrokered talks with Jakarta on Friday after the first reports that civilians had been killed in the area, where guerrillas are active. (Reuters)

Trip North Stirs Koreans' Hopes

DONGHAE, South Korean The first South Korean togrists to visit North Korea in 50 years returned from their journey Sunday with some hoping the trip would belp lead to remification of the long-time rivals.

'I believe the Mount Keunkang tour can speed up the reunification," said Kang Nam Sool, 76, one of the 780 South Koreans who took the five-day guided tour.

The tour group, accompanied by 200 journalists, visited the Diamond Mountains, just across the heavily fortified border between the North and

Heavy Damage In India Storm

NEW DELHI - Thousands of people lost their homes Sunday as a storm with winds of 80 to 100 kilometers per hour hit eastern India, do-

mestic news agencies said.
The United News of India reported that about 10,000 homes had been destroyed in West Bengal. About 100 fishermen were reported to be (Reuters)

For the Record

Singapore's senior minister, Lee Knan Yew, 75, was in stable condition Sunday in a Singapore hospital after being admined for treatment of an infection account from a an infection arising from a minor surgical procedure, his (Reviters)

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Assassination of a Russian Liberal Shocks St. Petersburg

By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

MOSCOW - The killing in St. Petersburg of Galina Starovoitova, a leading liberal politician and tireless dethroat, but military doctors treating him said Sunday that there was a good fender of Russia's democratic reforms over the weekend shocked her old allies, who claimed she was the latest victim of shooting, Reuters reported the country's lethally corrupt political

President Boris Yeltsin sent his top law-enforcement officials to investigate the shooting death of the 52-year-old parliamentary deputy, who had been his could not speak because of an artificial close associate during the early years of Russia's transition from communism to democracy and served as his adviser on

interethnic affairs. According to the local police, Miss Starovoitova was struck and killed late Friday night by three bullets to the head in the entranceway of ber apartment building off one of St. Petersburg's canals. Her press aide, Ruslan Linkov, was seriously wounded. The two guns used in the attack, a submachine gun and a pistol with a silencer, were found at the scene,

Her Friends Say Reformer Was Victim of Corrupt Political Climate in the style of Russian contract killings. shaken as he expressed his outrage at the weekend as a criminal act that was only

chance that he would live and that he might be able to provide clues about the [The 27-year-old journalist, who unweot five hours of surgery to remove a bullet from the brain, was later reported to be conscious and reacting "normally" to those around him. He

tube helping him to breathe.] In a statement, Mr. Yelisin expressed his "profound anger" and said he had taken personal control of the investi-

He said the shots that "cut short the life of Galina Vasileyna wounded every Russian who cherishes democratic val-

"A peremptory challenge was thrown at our entire society." Mr. Yeltsin said. Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov, interviewed on television, was visibly

[Mr. Linkov was shot in the head and killing. "This banditry must be brought troat, but military doctors treating him un an immediate end," he said.

Miss Starovoitova, a psychologist and ethnographer, was a spirited and visible leader of Russia's young democratic movement, who shared many a platform with Mr. Yeltsin and the late human-rights campaigner Andrei Sakharov in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She was a co-founder of Democratic Russia and kept a high profile as a leading if in-creasingly lonely "democrat" long after the movement fell into disfavor with a

disgruntled electorate. Most recently, she had declared her-self a candidate for governor of the region outside St. Petersburg, in elections scheduled sometime next year. She had also recently remarried, prompting a string of articles about the personal life of one of Russia's few prominent women in politics.

Politicians of all stripes — including the leader of the Russian Communist Party - criticized the killing over the

the latest example of the lawlessness that has pervaded public life in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Russia's former im-perial capital, has been the scene of a number of political contract killings in recent years. The city is also in the midst of a particularly nasty election campaign for the local municipal council, which has brought forth numerous accusations of dirty tricks.

The question to be answered is whether this was a case of a political group getting even with a politician over a particular fact, or a contract killing on a wider level, aimed at provoking political consequences,' said former President Mikhail Gorbachev, in an interview with a Russian news agency. He praised Miss Starovoitova as "learned, courageous and active, a born politician."

In an interview on Echo Moskvy, a Moscow radio station, former Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar, the first architect of Russian economic reform and a close political ally of Miss Starovoitova's,

said she had received many threats. Reportedly, she never traveled with a body-

"She was extremely tough in opposing radical nationalists and Comm the Parliament," Mr. Gaidar said. "She was like a bone in the throat for them."

According to the St. Petersburg police report, Miss Starovoitova and her press aide were shot as they returned to her apartment in St. Petersburg's historic central district. Miss Starovoitova was aheady dead when their bodies were found by a neighbor at 10:45 Friday night. In their report, the police said they found \$1,700 and 1,000 Bulgarian levs in cash and several credit cards at the scene, apparently ruling out robbery as a

The killing will be prosecuted under Russia's laws against terrorism, and the investigation will be carried out by Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin and Vladimir Putin, director of the Federal Security Service, who arrived Saturday in St. Petersburg.

Mr. Putin, who is from St. Petersburg, called the killing a "loathsome" event.

A Tempest Over Claim of Plot on Mogul

By Michael Wines New York Times Service

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin has ordered an inquiry into spectacular charges leveled last week - so far without evidence that Russia's equivalent of the FBI plotted to kill one of the country's most influential tycoons.

The tycoon is Boris Berezovsky, an oil magnate, director of the an oil magnate, director of the largest Russian television network and a leading supporter of Mr. Yeltsin during the last presidential campaign in 1996. Mr. Berezovsky, who is still alive, made public a letter last week asserting that the Federal Security Service, a spin-off. of the Soviet Union's KGB, which is responsible for domestic law enforcement, had plotted last winter to

His source, a Security Service colonel named Alexander Litvinenko, called a news conference Tuesday to promote the accusation and warn that a rogue element is running. wild within the agency.

Moscow has talked about little else since. Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, Dmitri Yakushin, said the president had ordered the security service and his chief national se-curity aide to investigate the action

Mr. Yeltsin "is seriously worried" by the latest media reports that FSB officials have allegedly committed illegal actions," Mr. Yakushin said. FSB is the Russian acronym for the service, which is responsible for investigating organized crime, terror-ism and foreign intelligence oper-

At his news conference, Mr. Litvinenko and several other agents — some thinly disguised in dark glasses — said the agency was infested by a "criminal group" that had been using it "for their own private political purposes, including settling accounts with unwanted people."

Besides the oral order to murder

Mr. Berezovsky, which Mr. Litv-inenko contended was issued by leaders of the agency, other bureau officers detailed what they said was a plut to kidnap the brother of another prominent Moscow business-

man, Umar Dzhabrailov. -Why the orders were supposedly issued - and why the plats were not carried out - was not clear. The agents took pains to note that all of the plots unrayeled before the service's current director, Vladimir Putin, took command in August.

But Mr. Putin reacted angri

anyway, saying he had written evidence that some of the same officers who staged the news conference were themselves rogues who had pushed illegal crime-fighting methods. Some of them, he ad-ded, had been personal bodyguards for Mr. Berezovsky before working in the bureau. "They will be dis-naissed in strict accordance with the

law," he said.

Mr. Putin ridiculed the allegations, arguing that experienced investigators like Mr. Litvinenko would have secured proof of their charges, perhaps through video surveillance, if they were true.

Mr. Berezovsky's Communist Party critics suggested that the once-powerful industrialist, his stature lowered by Russia's economic downfall, was simply seek-. ing to recapture lost limelight.

KL: Do Many Cranes Spoil Malaysia View? Continued from Page 1 The government encouraged these

projects to make sure Kuala Lumpur had enough hotel rooms for two big events this year: the Commonwealth Games in September and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit meeting, which ended Wednesday.

But now that the Games are over and the foreign dignitaries have left, property analysts are asking what Malaysia will do with all that capacity. The num-ber of hotel rooms in Malaysia has more than tripled in a decade, to 130,526 from 40,760, according to the Malaysian Tourism Promotion Board.

"The newer hotels are probably experiencing between 20 to 40 percent occupancy," said Ken Lee, head of marketing at C. H. Williams Talhar Wong Sdn., which serves as the correspondent office for the international property-consulting concern Richard Ellis.

Two hotels still being built in the capital, a Westin and a Hyatt, have recently slowed or deferred further construction. raising the prospect that two concrete shells will remain in the city center as symbols of boom-years nverconfidence.

The government's policy toward the property sector is consistent with its overall approach to battling the economic crisis. More than any other country in the region, Malaysia has tried to mitigate the effects of the crisis by keeping the economy moving: bailing out troubled companies, prodding banks to increase their lending and slashing interest rates. The result has been relatively few corporate failures and low unemployment.

On Friday, the central bank, Bank percent from 15 percent, in its latest

pain and ignoring the need for fundamental reforms. The government counters that wide-scale bankruptcies will only worsen the downturn.

For a city of 3 million people, Kuala Lumpur has an unusual number of hotels. Many of them were huilt on the back of government incentive programs. The government offered tax deferments, for instance, for hotels that were completed before the Commonwealth Games began in September.

A lot of people were building because they thought the Commonwealth Games would bring large crowds." the consultant at Jones Lang Wootton said.

tels able to fill only half their rooms, past year.

according to property analysts, a fierce price war is under way. A room at the Marriott goes for \$60. Down the road, the Ritz Carlton offers rooms for \$58.

Also saddled with massive overcapacity is the retail sector. Shopping malls have sprouted up throughout the capital in recent years. One project, a shopping complex and entertainment center called Beriaya Star City, will add 180,000 square meters (2 million square feet) of retail space when completed in 2001.

Michael Cheah, the project's de-veloper, says he has sold 65 percent of the retail space. "It's no use saying there are too many shopping centers simply based on numerical statistics alone," he said this year. "The caliber of each center and its target market must be considered, too."

Both hotels and retail outlets depend heavily on regional tourist traffic, including visitors from Hong Kong and Singapore. But with the economic crisis leaving few spots in Southeast Asia untouched, flights between neighboring countries have been slashed as would-be tourists opt to stay home.

Occupancy rates in office buildings, too, have plummeted and taken rents with them. The average price per-square-foot for office space in the city center has fallen from 5 ringgit (\$1.30) to as low as 2.5 ringgit, all in the span of a year. Likely to suffer must are office buildings on the outskirts of the city, where average vacancy rates look set to reach at least 25 percent over the next few months.

But Kuala Lumpur's property glut is not just about empty buildings and lower rents. The swift fall in property values has larger implications for the economy

repayment on credit card spending, to 5 30 percent of total loans in the banking system, according to Bank Negara, and move to encourage spending.

Critics say Malaysia is postponing the collateralize loans. When the value of their property falls below a pre-deter-mined level, banks could ask the companies to come up with cash to make up for the lower values.

Many individuals also speculated on property during the boom years. Today, they are often left with unrentable properties and fat monthly payments. Gan Kim Khoon, a banking analyst at SG Research (Malaysia) Sdn. estimates these speculative property purchases make up 15 percent of total housing loans.

In recent months, rental signs have popped up throughout Kuala Lumpur's outlying residential areas. Nelson Tan, a real estate agent who works in the up-"That didn't really happen."

Mith even the city's established hohave fallen by about 30 percent in the



SOMBER ANNIVERSARY — Senator Edward Kennedy placing flowers on the grave of his brother John nn Sunday in Arlington, Virginia, as his wife, Victoria, looked on and his sister Ethel Kennedy placed flowers on the grave of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. It was the 35th anniversary of the assassination of JFK.

Rapt Audience At Christo Trees

RIEHEN, Switzerland — More than 30,000 people flocked here over the weekend to view 178 trees that had been wrapped by the U.S. artist Christo and his wife, Jeanne-Claude, organizers of the exhibition said.

"Wrapped Trees" required a 33-person team to swaddle the trees surrounding Richen's Beyeler Mu-seum, using 55,000 square meters (590,000 square feet) of transparent polyester fabric and 23 kilometers (14 miles) of rope.

Christo's previous ventures have included wrapping the Pont-Neuf in Paris and the former German Parliament building, the Reichstag, in Berlin.

NATO: Bonn Seeks Change on Nuclear Policy

that endorsing the disarmament proposal would have triggered a major dispute with its leading allies, but they said the new government wanted to serve notice it was scrinus about campaigning to have NATO renounce first-use and to diminish the alert status of its nuclear weapons.

With many of NATO's governments now run by leftist parties, the influence of political groups within the alliance that want to deemphasize the role of nuclear arms has grown significantly. Canada, in particular, has declared its support for incorporating a no-firstuse ban into the new strategic concept, which is supposed to chart the alliance's war-fighting doctrines for the 21st century.

Reserving the option of initiating a nn-

clear conflict has been a cornerstone of NATO's deterrence strategy for decades. Allied military commanders say that sustaining doubts in the mind of any adversary about NATO's willingness to escalate to the nuclear level is an important psychological we are trying to contain," the official said.

Continued from Page I was critical in the post-Cold War era if only to ward by neutral countries at the United preserve a strategic equilibrium, because

clear weapons on alert status. U.S. officials said that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had expressed serious concern in her discussions with her German counterpart about the perils that Washington perceives in making any changes in NATO's nuclear doctrine. But her appeals have gone unheeded largely because of overwhelming support among the Social Democrats and the Greens for a no-first-use pledge. "We believe the Germans are using

flawed logic and phony arguments," a senior U.S. policymaker said, "If we adopted a no-first-use policy, it would not only harm our deterrence strategy but would encourage rather than dissuade other countries to go after nuclear weapons. It makes no sense. He dismissed the German position as

"misguided and even dangerous." "Anything that departs from the status quo on the alliance's nuclear doctrine could

Gulf War, with an implicit view to lifting an

eight-year oil embargo. The inspectors, one of them said, believe "the knives are out" for

Unscom in the Russian, French and Chinese

eming presumption in Mr. Annan's inner circle and in the Russian and French delegations here is

for the comprehensive review to be finished by

Christmas, with a view to lifting the oil embargo

doing so.
"You can never have 100 percent proof because it's too easy to develop, manufacture and

that Iraq's disarmament is nearly complete.

Contrary to Unscom's expert view, the gov-

Russia and France, in particular, are pressing

or listing a few narrow remaining tasks before Tariq Aziz saluting Sunday during the opening of an Arab congress in Baghdad.

The American and British delegations intend to resist pressure for a clean bill of health for live.

hide biological weapons, so at some point the technical exercise gives way to a political judgand each has a yeto in the council. ment," said a confidant of Mr. Annan. "At some Iraq's frustration with the review is seen point, it becomes impossible to prove a neganother likely occasion for conflict with Un-

tions without provoking open conflict.

from villages near the volcano. (Reuters)

said Sunday that Iraq's objections to turning over documents to UN inspectors were unreasonable, Reuters reported. "Mr. Butler has said that their response is not satisfactory," Mr. Berger said.
"He's gone back to them and asked for further information and we hope and expect to get

that U.S. support for Unscorn, including its un-restricted access to weapons sites and information, would be backed by military strikes if Iraq does not cooperate,

the sense of a "greatly strengthened" mandate described by an adviser to Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Four senior inspectors, in interviews, said they could foresee nn successful end to the panel's seveo-year disarmament mission. 'The whole range of Unsenm's authority has

been eroded," said a long-serving foreign mem-ber of the panel's leadership. "There is nothing we can do to return to the effectiveness we had in

devise ambitious tests of Iraqi cooperation, but they say they had no new defense against Baghdad's favored tactic of deflection and delay. Unscom expects neither defiance nor cooperation, according to inspectors and their diplomatic allies. Instead, they predict a return to past patterns of dissemblance aimed at frustrating the inspec-

For Mr. Clinton and Prime Minister Tuny Blair of Britain, who issued and retracted attack orders last weekend, that prospect has the potential to blur their insistence that they will now strike without warning should President Saddam Hussein block efforts to uncover and eliminale

banned weapons programs... That is the key question that is going to be hounding us in the next couple of weeks: What constitutes clear-cut nonecoperation that justifies the use of force?" said a Clinton administration official. "If Iraq plays it the way they have in the past, they'll create enough grayness to make it difficult for the Russians, French and Chinese to say they're not cooperating. The hard part is what Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, and Paine-

because if he's smart, he doesn't make it ob- curity Council resolutions that ended the 1991

Well-informed diplomats said that it would be two or three weeks before Unscom could confront the Iraqis with meaningful surprise inspections and that the long interval since the last searches in July made it improbable that they would discover anything in the first round. The intelligence leads Unscom relies on are highly perishable, since Iraq routinely moves its caches of documents and equipment.

Prudent and smart Iraqi planners, and they have plenty of those, will have taken every precaution," a Unscom inspector said, "Wherever we go, we'll find an empty room, and they'll hold the door open for us.

A series of apparently fruitless searches, inspectors fear, will weaken Unscom politically with a Security Council long since grown weary of the struggle with Iraq.

Continued from Page 1

by a desire to have greater global reach and a

moves would probably be limited to the top tier of

Chase Manhattan Corp., which had serious

merger discussions with the Swiss banking con-

cern Credit Suisse and made repeated merger

overtures to Merrill Lynch & Co. this year, may

be on the hunt again. Other possible partners for

velop such a presence.

The council has promised a "comprehensive review" of Iraq's performance under the Se-

BANKS: Wall Street Wonders Whether a New Round of Megamergers Is Coming

delegations.

stronger presence in the United States, despite its has repeatedly stated its intention to remain inprevious ill-fated attempts to jump into investdependent. Deutsche Bank's plunge into high-stakes investment banking is out of fashion these days. Under the proposed deal, expected to be announced Monday, Deutsche Bank would pay Many European and Japanese firms have already retreated from Wall Street in the past couple of about \$90 a share for Bankers Trust. vears because they found it either too expensive Despite a cool reception on Wall Street for

or too difficult to break into that highly commergers, some U.S. institutions may feel compelled to fullow Deutsche Bank's lead. Such petitive world But by paying a premium of about \$13 for U.S. banks that already have an international presence or have stated their intentions to de-Bankers Trust over its stock price on Friday, Deutsche Bank is showing a renewed willingness to flex its muscles.

Executives close to the deal said Saturday that Frank Newman, Bankers Trust's chief executive, Co. would be made co-chief executive of the new investment banking unit created by Deutsche Alex Brown, and the Wolfensohn acquisition. Chase include Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., how long Mr. Newman plans to stay on in that role, although executives involved in the merger climbing \$5.25, or 7.3 percent, to \$77.25, because of the merger speculation.

J. P. Morgan & Co., which is certain to be the former president, James Dimon, would take over subject of renewed merger speculation, is much more financially sound than Bankers Trust and

Bankers Trust has 20,539 employees, with 11,399 in the United States and 9,140 overseas. It was already considering cutting its work force before this merger neared its conclusion, and there will probably be substantial layoffs after the merger is announced.

Although it is technically a commercial bank, Bankers Trust has more of an investment banking profile, especially with its recent moves into equities-related businesses.

The biggest move was to purchase Alex Brown of Baltimore in a deal valued at \$1 billion, It also bought National Westminster PLC's European equities business and the U.S. investment banking boutique Wolfensohn

But Banker's Trust has had a rocky start with regarded by experts as something of a bust. Bankers Trust's shares rose sharply on Friday.

BRIEFLY

Jiang Arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW - President Jiang Zemin of China arrived Sunday in Moscow for an informal meeting with President Boris Yeltsin that is intended to underscore warm ties between the world's most populous county and the largest.
Mr. Yeltsin's talks Monday with Mr. Jiang

at the Ogaryovo residence near Moscow are expected to focus on trade and international issues, including cooperation in countering the perceived U.S. domination of the post-Cold War world order. Bot Russia's economic crisis will also cast a shadow over this sixth bilateral meeting, with Chinese human-itarian aid to its neighbor likely to be discussed, Interfax news agency said. (Reuters)

For the Record

Russia's Far Eastern region of Sakhal-in and Japan's main northern island of Hokkaido sealed an accord Sunday aimed at promoting trade and other ties in the latest sign of a growing rapprochement between Moscow and Tokyo. The agreement Sunday will help draw much-needed Japanese investment into infrastructure projects in the cash-strapped Sakhalin region. (Reuters)

The Cuban government has released two Cuban opposition figures "with serious health problems" from prison, a dissident group has announced. Jesus Chamber Ramirez and Dessi Mendoza Rivero, jailed for distributing "enemy" propaganda, were freed late Friday, according to the Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation. The Rights and Nanona Recommended by the move follows a request for their release by the (AFP) Spanish government.

Lava has cozed from the Colima volcano in western Mexico, reducing the threat of violent eruption but keeping surrounding villages on alert, local government officials said. The authorities had evacuated 758 people

IRAQ: UN Inspectors See Little Chance of Success in Rebuilding Effectiveness

Continued from Page 1

President Bill Clinton on a trip to South Korea,

On Saturday, Mr. Berger repeated a warning But the view inside Unscom is notably lacking

Mission planners at Unscom have begun to

you do to demonstrate that he's not cooperating. Webber.

er Claim

We speak numbers fluently, but do you know in how many languages?



Dexia's outstanding loans in the financing of public service facilities stood at FRF 631 billion on 30 June 1998.



Dexia has a 40% stake in Crediop, the leading private bank for public service facilities in Italy. Its share of funding represented 25% of the open market for public sector on 30 June 1998.



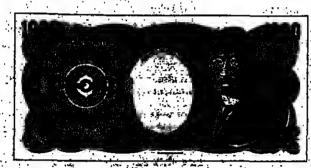
US dollar (USD)

Total outstanding commitments generated by the New York branch in public finance and project finance came to USD 3.914 billion on 30 June 1998.



Swiss franc (CHF)

Experta-BIL, banking company and Dexia's Swiss fiduciary, managed assets of CHF 4.087 billion on 30 June 1998.



Crédit local de France's total outstanding bond Issues (before swap) in vert stood at JPY 409.4 billion.



Australian dollar (AUD)

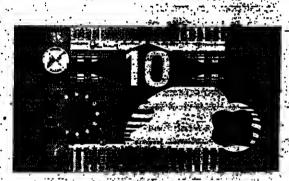
Dexia manages assets of AUD 205 million in Australia
via AUSBIL Partners Ltd



Pound sterling (GBP)

Dexia has two outlets in the United Kingdom.
BIL London focuses on asset management.

Dexia Municipal Bank (GBP 1.076 billion in outstanding credits on 30/06/98) is a significant player in the social housing and major projects markets.



MV Bank Medical Series Comeditions

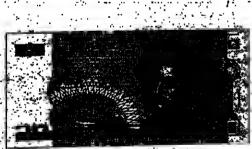
The Dutch municipal Bank was ended for the founding share was ended france.

Share a series of the founding share a series of the series of the



Belgian franc (BEF)

Dexia's total outstanding deposits, all customer categories, came to BEF 2,896 billion on 30 June 1998.



Austrian schilling (ATS)

Dexia has a 26% stake in Österreichische Kommunalkredit.

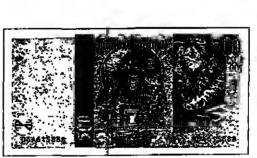
The bank of Austrian local government posted

ATS 5.33 billion in new operations on 30 June 1998.



Dexia, the banking partner for local government in Europe, was created by the merger of Crédit local de France and Crédit Cemmunal de Belgique. Already European

leader in the financing of public service facilities and with shareholders' equity of 6.2 billion euros, Dexia is currently expanding into Bank insurance and asset management.



Portuguese escudo (PTE)

Dexia supplied the equivalent of PTE 1.004 billion towards the financing of the Tagus bridge.



Canadian dellar (CAD)

Dexia is providing financing for Canadian provinces and major cities as part of its:

North American expansion. Outstanding loans stood at CAD 656 million on 30 June 1998.



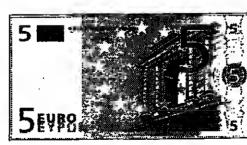
Swedish krona (SEK)

Only eighteen months after startup,
Dexia's Swedish subsidiary, Dexia Kommunbank AB,
has total outstanding loans of
SEK 5,083 billion on 30 June 1998.

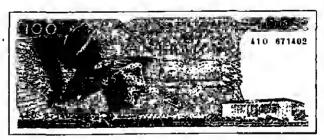


Luxembourg franc (LUF)

Dexia managed some LUF 885.3 billion in assets on 30 June 1998. These activities have been reassigned to the group's new specialised subsidiary, Dexia Asset Management (Dexiam).



Euro (EUR)
On 15 September 1998, the market capitalisation of the group totalled 9.5 billion euros.



Greek dracma (GRB)

As part of a partnership agreement signed in early 1997, Dexia has been acting as advisor to the Greek national savings and deposits bank, in the areas of risk analysis, lending and resources policy.



Since the beginning of 1998,
Dexia Hypothekenbank Berlin AG
has issued a volume of DEM 5.5 billion on
the Jumbo Pfandbriefe market.
These issues have been given an AAA rating.



Peseta (ESP)

As part of the alliance signed in June 1998
with the group Argentaria, Dexia has acquired a 40%
stake in Banco de Credito Local,
the leading banker of Spanish local authorities.

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Pyongyang Mischief

North Korea soon will begin admitting South Korean tourists for the first time, albeit on a tightly circumscribed innerary. This is a fruit of President Kim Dae Jung's policy of engagement with the secretive and hostile North. Mr. Kim hopes gradually to defang his Communist neighbor through business investments and oth-

er contacts of various kinds. The difficulty of this endeavor is illustrated by a different sort of tourism that the North is proposing. U.S. in-telligence agencies have detected a vast, underground construction project that U.S. officials suspect may support nuclear weapons development. This would shred a 1994 agreement under which North Korea promised to freeze its nuclear weapons program in return for two energy-generating nuclear reactors and a large amount of fuel oil, to be supplied mostly by Japan, South

Korea and the United States. Last week U.S. officials visited Pyongyang to request access to the underground site. North Koreans offered a tour - for a fee of \$300 million. U.S. officials, you will be glad to learn, declined to pay, Discussions

are expected to continue North Korea essentially blackmailed the West into the nuclear deal; now it is trying to up the ransom. And no wonder: its economy is more of a wreck than ever. A recent United Nations survey found that 62 percent of

North Korean children have been stunted by malnutrition and that 16 percent are severely malnourished. Yet North Korea's Stalinist dictatorship continues to pump money into its vast mil-itary. On Aug. 31 it shot a missile directly across Japanese territory and, according to a Washington Post story (IHT, Nov. 21), it is expanding its short-

and medium-range missile programs.

President Bill Clinton, in Tokyo on Friday, said North Korea's conditions for a site inspection are "completely unacceptable," but he is not ready yet to give up on the 1994 agreement. Japan is upset that the United States did not react more forcefully to the Aug. 31 missile launch, but South Korea does not want Mr. Clinton to do anything to jeopardize its policy of engagement.

Mr. Kim wants to guide North Korea toward a "soft landing" - toward a program of gradual reform that would prevent both war and collapse, two live possibilities. That is Mr. Clinton's idea, too, as he reiterated on Saturday in Seoul. But wanting something does not mean it is feasible, Mr. Clinton has asked former Defense Secretary William Perry to review U.S. policy toward North Korea. "We are at a critical junc-ture in our relations with Pyongyang," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said on Friday. If blackmail and blandishments are not working, there should be no pretense that they are.

Hurry Up in Jakarta

After 32 years of dictatorship under President Suharto, Indonesians are understandably eager for free elections. President B. J. Habibie must move faster in providing them and avoid the Suharto-style repression be bas flirted with in recent weeks.

Mr. Habibie, wbo was Mr. Suharto's protégé, took over when his mentor was forced from power last May. He has made some limited steps toward democracy. But instead of seeking legitimacy through early elections, he has stretched out what should have been a brief transition.

This month, students returned to the streets of Jakarta for the largest demonstrations since the fall of Mr. Suharto. They were protesting the slow pace of Mr. Habibie's transition timetable, his anemic efforts to recover money stolen by the Suharto family, and the military's continued role in government. Unlike last May, the protests were not joined by the middle class, but they did draw support from the far more numerous, and desperate, urban poor.

Security forces overreacted, killing several students. Mr. Habibie seized on the violent crackdown as a pretext for interrogating several opposition political figures.

He is pushing ahead with plans that would defer selection of the next president until the end of 1999. Even then, the choice would not be made by voters but by a partially elected assembly likely to include large numbers of military officers and government ap-pointees. It will lack the legitimacy to carry out painful economic reforms or

cope with popular protests. This week, Indonesia's Parliament will consider the army's future role in politics. Mr. Habibie and his political allies want the army to retain its hand in selecting presidents for five to 10 more years. That kind of military influence bas no place in a democratie Indonesia. A quicker, cleaner transi-tion to full civilian democracy is needed, and Washington should not be shy about saying so.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Get Down to the Case

The House Judiciary Committee's first hearing into the possible impeachment of President Bill Clinton could not have been a more disappointing spectacle for anyone seeking a serious and fair examination of bow the charges against Mr. Clinton should be resolved. Kenneth Starr's testimony was, generally speaking, a credible defense of his own investigation and a useful refocusing of the Monica Lewinsky imbroglio on the conduct of the president. But the hearing otherwise failed atterly to approach the matter at

hand with even a pretense of rigor. Mr. Starr's testimony described a deliberate quality in the president's deceptions: that Mr. Clinton, far from being sandbagged in his deposition, meant to mislead the court and to get Ms. Lewinsky to do the same. One might think that this construction of the evidence would have been provocative and worth exploring. Yet the Democrats avoided, at all costs, discussing the substance of the allegations against Mr. Clinton, preferring to make pious speeches about the presumed defects of the prosecutors. And the Republicans meanwhile sought generally to defend the prosecutors, while making pious speeches about the rule of law and the president's misdeeds. Neither side evidenced much desire to use Mr. Starr's testimony as an opportunity to

clarify or expand the factual record. Then again, had the developing of facts been the objective, Mr. Starr would not bave been the chief witness in the first place. His testimony was not itself evidence but a kind of commentary on the evidence, which is no kind of substitute for the committee's own fact-finding. The committee cannot disregard its obligation to establish its own judgments based on a full factual

record merely because the case against Mr. Clinton did not collapse after the testimony of the prosecutor. And questions remain about which Mr. Starr's evidence is equivocal — even if his conclusions are stated firmly.

Mr. Starr's testimony was mainly important because of the persistent questions about his own behavior. But while presidential lawyer David Kend-all managed to make him look bad at times. Democrats never once credibly argued that any of his errors or misdeeds undermined any of the factual contentions that the prosecutor had made in his referral. Even on those points where Mr. Starr's testimony seemed inadequate and more information would still be useful - such as Mr. Starr's failure to address directly the question of how the Lewinsky matter first came to his atiention - the Democrats achieved nothing save the satisfaction of seeing him momentarily flustered.

The path ahead should be clear. While speed is important in the committee's consideration of this matter, it does not obviate the need to address as rigorously as possible the questions on which the evidence is still less than crystalline -- such as whether Mr. Clinton instructed Betty Currie to retrieve gifts that he had given to Ms. Lewinksy. This means deposing some of the cen-

tral players in the Lewinksy drama. Mr. Starr's testimony and the ques-tioning that followed it suggest that whatever errors the prosecutor has made - and we believe there bave been several of considerable magnitude — they will not save the president from accountability in this matter. This fact, however, should not entitle the committee merely to piggyback on Mr. Starr's prior investigation.

THE WASHINGTON POST

ESTABLISHED INKT KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER

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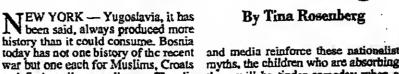
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and Serhs, all contradictory. The division of memory along etimic fault lines has produced a cycle of killing and revenge in the Balkans for more than a thousand years. To try to break the cycle, some cit-

izens' groups in Bosnia are proposing a commission to write a common history. The goal may be elusive, but it is well worth a try. The idea shows how more and more nations emerging from tyranny or war are designing independent groups, commonly known as truth commissions, to examine the causes and tell the full story of past crimes. But each country is adapting the idea to its own circumstances.

The Bosnian war bas strengthened each ethnic group's sense of victimization. Many Serbs fervently believe that only Serbs suffered, and if they acknowledge that Serbs killed, they argue self-defense. Some Serbian war criminals are revered as beroes.

The same is true of many Muslims and Croats, Because Bosnia's schools

By Tina Rosenberg

myths, the children who are absorbing them will be tinder someday when a demagogue like Slobodan Milosevic comes along to incite them to kill rather than be victimized again.

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yngoslavia, based in The Hague, was supposed to dampen these myths by personalizing guilt in individuals rather than in whole ethnic groups, and prosecuting accused criminals of all ethnicities (although most are Serbs, who committed the vast majority of Bosnia's atrocities).

But the tribunal can do little for this canse. It is far away and run by outsiders, and bas not been able to get NATO to capture the top criminals. People in Bosnia learn of its activities mainly through their propaganda-filled media. It has been easy for Serbs to dismiss the tribunal as anti-Serbian. All over the world, countries re-

covering from tyranny or war are finding that justice, while crucial, can play only a limited role in bealing.

In Latin America, new democracies

and their judicial systems were too weak to combat amnesties that the mil-

itaries issued themselves. So they formed truth commissions as consolation prizes - if they could not amain justice, the commissions could at least officially acknowledge the victims' suffering and help them discover what happened in the secret torture cham-

In Bosnia, Calls to Agree on a Common History

bers and killing fields. In South Africa, where the new government felt less threatened by the old, the truth commission was able to offer amnesty to those who confessed their roles in political crimes. Bosma would need a different type of body, which should probably be called a

orical commission, since the concept of truth is so politicized. It would complement the Hague tribunal by allowing the Bosnians themselves to try to write a common account of the war, embracing the suffering of all sides.

Dozens of citizens' groups, small political parties and the media back the idea, which was first set forth in a side agreement to the Dayton peace accords. Some Serbs have said that a post-World War II truth commission might have helped prevent the Bosnian war:

Even leaders from all three groups

have indicated support — perhaps because each is sure that his group's

version of history will be vindicated. The strongest reservations, ironically, come from the Hague tribunal, whose members fear that witnesses might choose to tell their stories to the commission rather than to the tribunal.
This is a reasonable fear, but the commission could be structured so that the Hague tribunal takes precedence.

A draft proposal written by the U.S. Institute of Peace suggests that the com-mission include Bosnians from all ethnicities, selected by an international board after public consultation in Bosnia and approved by Bosnia's collective presidency. The commission's chair-person would be a foreigner. Since the tribunal and domestic war crime prose ecutions exist, it would not be necessary to identify perpetrators by name.

The pathologies that the commission would be trying to care could keep it from doing its job. The commissioners could divide along ethnic lines. Hardliners could try to intimidate witnesses. or reject the report. But support for the idea among Bosnians of all ethnicities is a sign that it has a chance.

The New York Times.

Upshot in Iraq: Saddam Endures, but So Do Sanctions

WASHINGTON — Let us score President Bill Clin-

ton's recent Iraq crisis. First, none of Iraq's terror weapons were found or put out of commission, and Saddam Hussein remains in power. These are the key strategic considerations, and the commanding debits on the balance sheet. They ensure that Bill Clinton's crisis, which arose from George Bush's failure to finish Saddam off in the Gulf War, will go on. In daily, tactical terms, bowever, President Clinton has

something to show. He got the international arms inspectors back into Iraq. Saddam's squeezing them out in August was the trigger of this crisis. Even in the best of circumstances, which do not exist, inspectors cannot guarantee to uncover hidden troves of terror, but the inspections offer a proven better immediate prospect of further disclosure than anything else that is at hand.

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

He kept the oil embargo and the other internationally approved economic sanctions on. Some contend that this does not matter all that much to a Saddam indifferent to his own people's privations. But it matters urgently to a Saddam desperate to restore the military strength that is the basis of his regional and personal ambitions.

He brought the Atlantic alliance, the Security Council's other powers, the Arab consensus and everyone else who counts - the whole familiar gang of evaders and equivocators - into support of the proinspection, pro-compliance po-sition in the showdown with Iraq. As the clock ticked down on the attack plans, Saddam Hussein found himself alone.

He doused at least until the next test the widespread suspicions that he was a hesitant, 'cruise missile president' unprepared to bring heavy military force to bear.

He managed this crisis by. making a credible military threat and then, to keep from being cast as the aggressor, by quickly sheathing that threat when Saddam made his lastminute change of mind and admitted the inspectors. .

He kept intact a stern and unanimous Security Council position requiring Saddam to satisfy the full demands of the inspectors before the council takes up Saddam's demands for relief from the oil embargo. To reinforce U.S. demands, American planes and missiles are remaining on station and on alert for some period of time. -

He opened, perhaps to his own surprise, a potentially useful alternate line of policy directed at supporting a "new government' somehow to challenge Saddam Hussein. Or, in

diplo-talk, he started adding to the continuing policy of the containment of Saddam a new element aimed at the replace-ment or overthrow of Saddam. Tough guy that he is, Saddam has to consider what this element might someday bring.

Last February, Mr. Clinton

looked like a failure, having lost virtually all traces of realism, inmanive, coherence and herve in his approach to Saddam. In November he may not be visibly closer to terminating the military threat posed by the Iraqi dictator or to terminating his rule, but he has reduced his embarrassments by assembling the elements of a policy to limit the damages — including the political damages in Washington.

The Clinton administration s explanation of the turn centers. on what it describes as its decision to shift the general focusfrom America's troubled performance to Saddam's noncompliance with UN resolutions

and his continuing threat to the stability and peace of the re-gion. Saddam's inspection shintdown of Aug. 5 provided the requisite occasion.

The result, as the administration now sees it, is the current squeeze on an isolated Saddam. Either he will comply — this is considered unlikely, although not to be entirely dismissed before the fact — or the American people and others will see that the United States occupies the moral high ground and will support the use of force, however problematic the consequences.

Again I note that none of this ensures the ouster of Saddam or the full revealing of his menacing armory and arsenal. But it is a politically sustainable way. at least to distract and burden him and to contain his capacity for making trouble. It is the better part of wisdom to acknowledge that more than that may not soon be in the cards. The Washington Past.

The Anti-Impeachment Republicans Should Call a Half of many By E. J. Dionne January and the property of the president in Filegale itive sound bits: We have at the president in Filegale itive sound bits: We have at the president in Filegale.

WASHINGTON — Kenneth Starr's long day of testimony before the House Judiciary Committee on Thursday proved one thing with certainty: President Bill Clinton cannot be impeached on the current evidence without ripping apart the

country and putting Congress's egiumacy at risk. Fortunately, a significant and growing group of Republicans knows this. By preventing the House from throwing the country into turmoil, they will emerge as the quiet patriots of

this sickly mess. Even before the independent counsel spoke a word, the untenable nature of the process was put on public display. At first, House Judiciary Commit-David Kendall, Mr. Clinton's

uestion Starr. This threw Hyde, abandoned any Democrats into a fit. If Republicans were serious about building a public consensus for im-

peaching the president, they would have gone out of their way to subject Mr. Starr and his evidence to every test, and give the White House every opportunity to make its case. But this bearing was about

something else: a public relations exercise designed to shore up Mr. Starr's image and to satisfy Republican fire-breathers who probably spend even their sleeping hours dreaming of driving Mr. Clinton from office. The effort on behalf of Mr. Starr worked. He came off as tee Chairman Henry Hyde gave smart, polite and controlled, if more than a tritle righteous. Recounsel, only 30 minutes to publicans, including Chairman

of objectivity and acted as deferential cheerleaders.

But some of the sheen was taken off by the resignation on Friday of Mr. Starr's ethics adviser, Sam Dash, who said that by testifying Mr. Starr had be-come 'an aggressive advo-cate' who had 'unlawfully intruded" on Congress's im-

peachment power. Within minntes of Thursday's opening gavel, Demo-crats underscored how partisan the fight over Clinton has become. William Delahunt of Massachusetts forced a roll call vote on a proposal to let Mr. Kendall question Mr. Starr more fully. The party-line vote against Mr. Delahant's motion made the point. Sheila Jackson

blind, but we've never argued that justice is gagged."

There is little dispute about the underlying facts. They put the president in a bad light, ch is why Democrats spoke so little about them.

What is divisive is whether the agreed-upon facts warrant impeachment. Democrats andit appears, a substantial majority of the country believe that the president did wrong but should not be punished by im-peachment.

The plansibility of this view was underscored in a thoughtful exchange between Mr. Starr and Rick Boucher, a Virginia Demo-crat. Mr. Boucher noted, and Mr. Starr agreed, that if Mr. Clinton committed perjury, a prosecutor was free to bring a case against him after he left office. This, Mr. Boucher argued, preserved the principle that a president is not-above the law, without putting the country through the torture of impeachment

In another useful line of questioning, Charles Schumer. Democrat of New York, made clear that it would be very hard to prove that the president ob-structed justice. Mr. Clinton's efforts to help Monica Lewinsky find a job began long before she was a witness in the Paula Jones case. And his alleged coaching of his secretary Betty Curie's memory took place before she had received any subpoenss

Mr. Starr himself further nar-

rowed the issue by declaring that he had found no evidence

Barney Frank, Democrat of Massachusetts, to ask why lie had not passed these facts to Congress before the elections. It was a fair question that Mr. Starr

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did not adequately answer. Indeed; for all of Mr. Starr's reasonableness, he could be remarkably evasive. His testimony was chuttered with the sorts of phrases that Mr. Clinton and his aides have made famous. "I do not have a recollection," "I will search my recollection" and "I'm no recalling that."

Mr. Kendall scored by ques

tioning Mr. Starr's account of how Monica Lewinsky was treated when first interrogated by Mr. Starr's investigators in January - and whether she was encouraged to tape the president surreptitiously. Mr. Kendall and Zoe Lofgren of Califormia also asked whether Mr. Starr had contemplated using Mr. Clinton's relations with women against him long before

Ms. Lewinsky showed up. Republicans could push on, calling in more lawyers to talk about sex and perjury. Or they could vote and shut this embarrassment down.

Bob Barr, Republication Georgia, knows that anti-intpeachment Republicans hold the power to do so. "There are a lot of Republicans who don't have the stomach for this," Mr. Barr, an impeachment hard liner, told reporters after the hearings. He is right — and a

good thing, too.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Seoul Riots CHEMULPO - Rioting is going on at Seoul between the ad-

herents of the Independence Chib and the Opposition. Several Coreans have been killed and many wounded. A disturbing factor in Corean local affairs is the political reform party, known as the Independence Club. In as much as the people have absolutely no voice in the Govemment, the fact that the Emperor allowed this organization to exist was regarded as a hopeful sign. The latter made the announcement that their objective was so rid their sovereign of the host of course office holders.

1923: Fake Guides

PARIS.—The pestering of tour-ists visiting museums by so-called guides, whose stories about certain objects would be

hand by the French Government Mr. Leon, Director of Fine Arts, is determined to combat the evil He proposes to have specially trained guides, speaking a re-spectable number of languages, who will have to pass a kind of examination, after which they will become licensed guides and will wear a distinctive badge.

1948: Sartre Sues

PARIS - Jean-Paul Sartre succi his French publisher for authorizing an American adaptation of his latest play. "Les Mans Sales." The American version "Ret Gloves" is making "post of money." The aposte of car. istentialism is not satisfied as the American version has entirely distorted his thought. In "Les Mains Sales" M. Sartre discussed the case of conscience of a young bourgeois turned conreally wonderful if they were is a 'vulgar melodisma with an true, is being taken seriously in anti-Communist bias."

Herald Eribune

RICHARD WOOLDRIDGE, President and Chief Operating Officer MICHAEL GETLER. Executive Editor

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Goulle, 92521 Negitiv-sur-Seme, France Tel. (1) 41,4393,00, Par. Subscriptors, (1) 41,4392 (0, Adventing, (1) 41,4392 (2, News (1) 41,4392 58. Internet address: http://www.ibs.com E.Mail: ibs@ibs.com

What Smuggling Did for China

BEUING-China's crack-down on smugglers bas far-reaching implications for its economy, including foreign trade and domestic prices.

As a large proportion of China's imports is in one way or another related to smuggling, the success of the crackdown means that imports will fall sharply in the next year or two. Domestic producers will search for substitute raw ma-

terials and equipment, but will have to pay higher prices. Even if the country's total exports decline, its trade sur-plus will grow because im-ports will fall much faster. Imports of cheap raw materials and equipment have underpinned China's export boom for years, but the anti-smuggling campaign has put export

growth in jeopardy. As some companies have used lengrs of credit to obtain foreign exchange from government banks illegally, bankers are now being punished for colluding with, or turning a blind eye to, foreign exchange chears. But the banks simply cannot afford the costs of tracking how their customers will use trade finance, let alone of ensuring compliance. To avoid the blame, some banks have started to shy away from issuing letters of credit, even to le-

Many Hong Kong trading firms that are suspected of being smuggling agents will be hun badiy. Taiwan's trade with China will be similarly hurt.

gitimate importers.

By Joe Zhang

success of its anti-smuggling campaign, it should acknow-ledge the smugglers' great contributions to the Chinese economy. It should ask itself: Why was smuggling so rampant until recently?

The only reasons for smuggling are price differentials largely due to high import tariffs) or import restrictions. For decades, domestic sec-Chinese government have been shielded from domestic

and foreign competition. In-

efficiency has translated into

higher product prices. The victims were domestic consumers and the economy's efficiency. Leaving aside the questions of illegality and moral judgment, smuggling has done the Chinese economy a big favor by cracking open the protectionist forcess and forcing Chinese companies to reduce their stockpiles of goods and

became more efficient. For decades, Chinese companies have resisted price adjustments by building in-ventories financed by bank ioans. Smuggling, together with banks' growing reluctance to finance more inventories, has forced Chinese companies to reduce stock

levels since mid-1997. Any visitor to Shanghai can aftest that its property sector's glut is like to the country's industrial glut. If only smug-glers could force a de-stock-As Beijing celebrates the ing onto the property sector!

Many Chinese companies will benefit from the antismuggling campaign. Among them are those in the petrochemical, iron and steel, tobacco, pulp and paper, and automobile sectors.

The biggest loser is the consumer, along with the much needed lowering of prices in the economy. Partly as a result of the anti-smuggling drive the government has managed to engineer a modest price rise in certain products, but the jury tors monopolized by the is still out on this issue. Many state sector firms have just star ted to understand that prices can go down as well as up.

Chinese banks only recently began to tighten loans to these spoiled state-owned farms. The recent price rises induced by the anti-smuggling drive are largely one-off because they are chiefly due to bottlenecks in China's distribution system.

Excited by the sudden demand for certain products, suppliers who still have big inventories will act to meet the "shortage." Yet producers will only need to increase their output slightly to cause prices to plummet.

China may have lost its smugglers, but it urgently needs an efficient free market mechanism in their place. The writer, formerly a man-

ager at China's central bank, head of China research at HSBC Securities in Hong Kong. He contributed this comment to the International

Herald Tribune.

anch

LANGUAGE

Save Space With Finger-Snapping Brokerese

By William Safire

status your transfer request 24 hours a day," Fidelity Investments wrote Yvonne Freund of Bellevue, Washington. She imme-

wrote me, "Is this English?"

Not Standard English Rather, that
new verbal status of status is in the jargon of finger-snapping brokerese.

The purpose of making averbout of the noun status; meaning "standing" or "condition," is seemingly to save and Human Services; formerly Health,

Education and Welfare before they be utilized for hot stock tips.

I say "seemingly" because the real purpose of most noun-verbing is to give the illusion of moderaty. "This door is alarmed" zips along much faster than tator. On second thought, she wished "An alarm system is affixed to this

door that will make hourific noises and summon heavily armed police officers to hanl you off to jail if you open it."

I was ambivalent about spectate. I was ambivalent about spectate (and And yet it conjures a mental picture of a I'm of two minds about ambivalent) door with an alarmed expression on its until I thought the new verb through in face, evoking a "There, there, maybe you need therapy" from passers by.

If the verb statused is too short-form is in the language. The OED has it schwa than an er. The meaning was handed, and alarmed is indicrous, what

I think so. The reason is that it has withstood the test of a generation-long derision. Remember prioritize? That has a more media-opinionated consqueezing of "give priority to" was notation than the noun and verb com-subjected to withering fire from pre-scriptivists and other self-appointed soon to buy in formal writing. Bears guardians of good usage, and we won.

When a government official uses pri
britize today, he identifies himself as a raging bureaucrat and is hooted at by aesthetes who find that an "ugly word (The -ize do not have it.)

impact, on the contrary, strikes me as losing its preceding have an and "a nebbish and a schlumpeh." My succeeding on Although the past parNew York Times copy editor, Linda ticiple can be traced to 1601, purists Colm, asked, "Do you mean shlump?" will continue to object to any use of I insisted on the long form.

of fierce warriors, become impact as a verb. My hat is off to them

This prompted a note from Sol bothered me after that, because they force the language change Steinmetz, the yexicographer. "You New York Times S.

to go through a crucible, and in the case spelled nebbish correctly, but school status may stop its pompons-seem lumpeh is problematic, because actu-EWYORK - "You can now do not always impact new usage.

Let's try another: "I am encourSchlampe, which means "a slovenly
aging you to participate," wrote female or slut," but noted that I could
Donna Shalala, secretary of health and not have applied it to Sammy because human services, pushing a department- the word is feminine. diately statused her vocabulary and alleabhouring, by walking, running.

space: The old way, to learn the status Education and Welfare before they Merriam-Webster Web site tells me,"
Shalala said, "that spectating is indeed
a legitimate back-formation of specshe had not used the gerund form and

about impacted? Can you say, "That rare, and we should apply Rosen's will impact an election," instead of Value-Added Criserion. Does it supply i That will have an impact on it"?

a meaning not covered by the simple

... Although I like commentate, which

A recent polemic by a right-wing calumniator began with a story about a Jewish matchmaker. A character in the story, named Sammy, was identified as

ing verbification. But their objections ally there's no such word." He acknowledged the German word

saul Rosen of Maryland said, "Coinfectual person," wrote the ever-helpful sages are worthwhile only when they bring added value." (He means "when they add value.") "This one, not!" noun shlumn said."

I figuratively raced over to Harting and Human Saud Plants.

means the same as the Yiddish shlumper." He cited Joseph Heller's usage in his 1979 novel, "Good as Gold": "an odious shlump who made war gladly."

As winking works say in Mel Krupin's Bethesda deli, I conconcur. All my life I have had poor posture. This is not a source of pride; I can hear the voice of Ida Satir, my mother, saving. "Billy, stand up straight. saying, "Billy, stand up straight — why must you be such a schlumpeh?" She may have derived this from the Scandinavian slumpa, "to fall," the root of the English slump, as in "You call a thousand-point drop in the stock market a slump?" The pronunciation "one who stooped" but not neces-sarily "one who is stupid."

· It could be that the picture of a person with shoulders hunched forward would lead to the extension of meaning of "slovenly, ineffectual," as Steinmetz now defines the Yiddish term. At any rate, the final syllable has been clipped in its adoption in American slang, and the meaning of shlump has become synonymous with nebbish, a pitifully ineffectual loser."

The word once served me well. In army basic training, a lieutenant snapped at me, "Why can't you stand straight at attention, soldier?" I remembered my mother's usage, and promptly replied, "Because I'm a sch-lumpeh, sir!" He must have thought it meant membership in an esoteric band of fierce warriors, because he never

New York Times Service

INTERNATIONAL

اعكذامن الأعل

For Sale: Bonn's Nuclear Super-Bunker

By William Drozdiak Washington Post Service

MARIENTHAL, Germany - For many years, its very existence was considered a sensitive state secret. But oow that the threat of ouclear warfare has diminished, the German government has decided the time has come to sell off one of the crown jewels of the Cold

Burrowed deep within the hillside vineyards of the Ahr Valley about 30 kilometers (20 miles) south of Bonn, the lame-duck capital, an extensive subterranean bunker that was designed in shield Germany's political hierarchy from the hazards of nuclear blasts bas been put up for sale.

Until December, German official-dom had refused even to confirm the presence of the facility. But with government ministries preparing to move next year to Berlin and the risk of an enemy missile attack becoming a distant memory, the state property sales office has launched an advertising campaign in leading German oewspapers hoping to attract potential investors.

We realize it may be difficult to find someone with the right concept for this place," said Thomas Hofmann, director of the government property office, during a recent tour of what was eophemistically called the Alternative Location for Federal Constitutional Organs. "It's a hard sell. Inst the idea of bnying a nuclear bunker scares a lot of people.

The labyrinthine complex, designed as a train tunnel before World War I and later used by the Nazis for the secure assembly of V-2 rockets, was built at a cost of more than \$1 billion after the 1962 Cuban missile crisis to shelter top government officials. It consists of more than 1,000 offices and bedrooms, furnished in a drab, Spartan manner that accentuates the Dr. Strangelove atmo-

Visitors must pass through a series of thick steel-and-concrete doors to enter the enormous shaft bollowed 92 meters (300 feet) into a mountain of loose rock that was supposed to disperse the impact of a onclear hlast. Eighteen kilometers of corridors snake through the facility. along with an endless tangle of tubes and pipes to supply electricity and fresh air that is filtered through sand and coal to remove any contamination.

The clandestine bunker was sup-

posed to ensure the survival of the German leadership, including the chancellor, top ministers, key members of Parliament and the supreme court, and to permit essential parts of the government to function in a secure place for at least one mooth. Its construction was ordered by a secret NATO directive because of Germany's unique importance to the Western alliance; no other



GERMAN REMEMBRANCE - A memorial at the garrison cemetery in Tempelhof, Berlin, to the fallen of World War I captured the spirit of Totensonntag, the Sunday the dead are commemorated.

orate lengths to shield its state oper-

acons in wartime.

Each year, thousands of government and military officials would occupy the facility for training exercises on bow to sustain state functions in the event of war. The bunker was stocked with enough provisions to enable as many as 3,000 officials to live independently

through a nuclear winter for 30 days. "The question on everybody's mind was what the outside world would look like when the doors were opened on the 31st day," said Joachim Schraeder, the bunker's chief custodian. "Thank God it never had to be used in a real emer-

Apart from the elaborate security, conditions inside the bunker remain decidedly austere. Even the chancellor's quarters resemble a monkish abode, consisting of a small office area and a sleeping chamber equipped with a tiny cot that would have had trouble ac-commodating the 135-kilogram (300-pound) frame of former Chancellor Helmnt Kohl.

There are no visible recreation facilities, apart from a brightly lit reading room adorned with a wall-sized poster of a Caribbean sunset. The cabinet room is still jammed with maps and secure telephones to track the progress of a nuclear war and maintain communications with allied capitals.

Mr. Hofmann said besides getting rid of a leviathan that carries such morbid overtones from the Cold War, the governmeot expects to save millions of dollars a year in maintenance costs. Bot finding somebody who is willing to pay make way for a luxury 200-bed botel.

European country went to such elab- the right price, for the right purpose, is proving difficult.

He said the state property office had

received nearly 100 inquiries about the sale of the nuclear bunker, 16 of them specific offers. Some of the proposals call for transforming the place into a computer-chip facinty or a laboratory for physical and chemical experiments.

One potential investor has submitted plans for converting the vast tunnels into one of the world's biggest wine cellars. Another possible buyer wants to grow mushrooms there, while others suggest turning the place into a vast discotheque or a luxury botel that would include a living historical monument to the Cold War.

Mr. Hofmann said the government had refused to set a price and was seeking more offers.

■ Lawsuit Over Hitler Retreat

Arabian investors plan in sue the Bavarian state government over a decision to retain control of Hitler's retreat on Obersalzberg in the Bavarian Alps, claiming they lost 1 million Deutsche marks (\$595,000) competing to install a tourist center there. The Associated Press reported Sunday from Munich, quoting a report in Focus magazine,

The Munich-based oewsweekly said that during two years of oegotiations with the Bavarian Finance Ministry, the roup had offered to invest 180 million DM in the project and were misled about their chances.

The state finance minister, Kurt Faltlhauser, said Friday that an old hotel on the Obersalzberg site would be razed to

BOOKS

BLUE LICHT

By Walter Mosley. 296 pages. \$24. Linle, Brown. Reviewed by Carolyn See.

WAIT a minute! If a person is covered head to toe with seriously infected burns, how can doctors put him in a straitjacket for weeks at a time and expect him to go on living? This is a question that comes up three pages from the end of this story, but by that time the

People who love Mosley are going to have their affections sorely strained. Mosley, whose Easy Rawlins detective mystery series has gained a large and respectful following, has decided to go into what he must think of as acience fiction. The book jacket here reports ommously that "Blue Light" is only "the prelude to a projected trilogy," so I guess that means we won't be seeing Easy for a

while. It's a share. " It's not that Mosley should limit himself to the detective genre. Indeed, he's even be the same man whose prose used to be as easy-scenning as his detective's

The time is the '60s, the place Berkeley and most of Northern California. A shower of shining blue lights comes zooming in from an unknown location in the universe, and wherever they land they transform their unwitting targets into themselves, only more so. For example, an intelligent young woman named Nessa becomes the Repository of All Intelligence. A sexy young woman

named Claudia becomes the Goddess of All Sex, and the scenes that follow from

into generie, acid perceptions of the then First-Light.

*60s tercept that Ralph Waldo Emer- Even in his earlier life, Chance has the end of this story, but by that time the reader is, so fired of asking questions about internal consistency that it's point.

Some material in his 19th-century essay is same material in his 19th a particularly unsolicitous phrase, Mosley's narrator refers to giant sequoias that have been hit by blue light as "bellowing trees," so that even the

there's going to be a spirit out there inhabiting a body that just happens to be dying when the blue light comes and that spirit turns out to be Gray Man, the fiendish embodiment of death. And just do everything but hit him with their already written literary fiction and done well with it. But "Bhie Light" is terribly disappointing. In fact, it's derivative, solemn and frightfully dull, a mishmash of old "Highlander" episodes that leaves you shaking your head. Can this leaves be the same man whose proceused in the same man whose proceuse it is same man whose proceuse it is same and the same man whose proceuse it is same and the same man whose proceuse it is same and the same man whose proceuse it is same and the same man whose proceuse it is same and the level best to whack each other. Naturally, Gray Man does very well in these encounters all through the book, because it is pretty hard to kill death, especially if you use only guns and sticks and axes and headlocks. Death is already dead, and obviously these weapons aren't going to faze him. You'd think that might occur to some of these People of Increased Casome of these People of Increased Capacity, but they're too busy staging sex orgies and drinking each other's blood in Part 2, and by Part 3 they're all out in the woods making clothes out of mashed-up pine needles and hanling those stone pots

Those who get hit straight on by the light are called "Blues"; those who have been only indirectly affected are that (with barely clad semi-comatose love slaves standing at the ready to alake claudia's unslakeable desires) are pretty dopey and embarrassing.

We mustn't forget the feckless hippie con man standing around in a park who gets hit by the blue light and turns into the prophet Orde. His insights turn into generic, acid nearest total are called "Blues"; those who that claim are called "Blues"; those who have been only indirectly affected are referred to as Half-Lights, and this story is told by a Half-Light, a man of mixed blood called Chance, who, since this is more of an allegory than science fiction, is soon referred to as Last Chance—just as a beautiful young girl is called Julia at first, then Alacrity, then First-Light

son had already covered much of the been conflicted because of his black father, who deserted the family, and his white spother, whom he can't seem to care about. He's been severely tempted by the idea of snicide, and for the first half of the book is at least as close to death as he is to life. (Surely it's important in this narrative that death is referred to as Gray Man when he could have been called anything else, anything but what results when you combine the colors black and white.)

There are many other characters, named Preets and Allitar and Trini and Winch. They all thrash around affected "bellowing trees," so that even the in one way or another by the blue light forest here manages to be loud and irritating.)

It's never made clear if the bears have been hit by that light, but a flock of California monarding through the landawkwardly described fight where they do everything but hit him with their pocketbooks. Do you really think that's going to faze Gray Man?
Remember all the wit, humor and

irony, the effortless characterization and outgrown. But when I think of that "projected trilogy," my heart sinks. He's way too good a writer to do that to himself, or us.

Carolyn See reviews books regularly for The Washington Post.

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

- **Europe's bosses** under fire
- Can Philips' **CEO** hang onto the helm?
- The battle for south-east Asia's capital markets





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BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

Carroll's young man: "You are old, Father William and yet you incessantly stand on the sense bridge seniority: his major bridge accomplishments were yet you incessantly stand on your head. Do you think, ar your age, it is right?"

Bridge experts frequently stand on their heads, in a technical way, if they are con-

NORTH

497414 -WEST(D) ♠ K J 5: ♥KJ7.4 AAK62

♣Q #5: North East 1-8 Pass 1-4 Pass 1-7 Pass Pass Pass

posture offers no hope. An example is the diagramed deal, with Roger Stem in the South now retired from serious play. The deal was played during the annual expert-member

night of the Harmonie Club, 4 East 60th Street in New York. Stern and his wife, Sandy, finished second in the expert cat-egory, behind Gail Greenberg and this writer. Memberguest winners were Mickey Greenbaum and Richard Fer-

The normal contract for North-South is four spades, which is doomed by the location of the missing trump honors. Three no-trump is an inferior alternative, which inferior alternative, which 43 was reached when North 98 failed to insist on spades after the fit in that suit had been

ancovered. A heart was led, and South 3 N.T. inspected the dammy in some gloom. The chance of making nine tricks was poor, and suc-

vinced that a normal vertical cess was likely to be a failure. The defense would surely be 400 for making three no- able to take three heart tricks trump would be useless in and at least two club tricks. match-point terms if other Dummy's heart ten was a North-South pairs were col-stopper if East was on lead. lecting 420 in four spades.

The heart lead was ducked. and East won with the king business. He ran four diaand returned the four. West's mond winners reaching the queen was taken with the ace, and South thought it over. He

the odds and risked a heavy defeat, but South recognized score, since the normal result that his cause was hopeless if was down one in four West held a top club honor. spades.

V 105 WEST **★ 10 9 8** :

stopper if East was on lead. When East played low and the queen won, South was in

ending shown at right. On the last diamond a heart then decided to stand on his was thrown from the dummy head and make a totally ab- and East gave up the club six. normal play: a club from Now a club was led, forcing duminy to the queen.

East to win and give dummy
This was obviously against two spade tricks at the finish. The game was made for a top

> Bast missed two chances. Taking the top clubs when the suit was led, with a third round of clubs to follow, would have been effective. So would a discard of a top club EAST in the diagramed position. KJ But even those defenses would have allowed South to make eight tricks for an av-

erage score. Standing on one's head can impress the gallery, but most of the time the result will be

The Biology of Aging: A Quest for the Immortal Cell

By Nicholas Wade New York Times Service

TEW YORK - In the Greek myths, a terrible price is always paid by humans who seek to live forever, as if to discourage people from even the thought of sharing in the defining attribute of gods. Tithonus, a youth with whom Aurora, the goddess of the Dawn, fell in love, was granted immortality, but as he grew more bent and decrepit longed only

for one other gift, the relief of death. Chastened by such cautionary tales, we meekly accept that death is as inevitable as the dawn, knowing that our bodies will run down like an aging automobile when they exceed their design limit. So it was almost disquicting rather than uplifting to hear sciennsts at Geron Corp. in Menlo Park, California, talk about "immortalizing" certain cells that they hoped to derive from the recently isolated human embryonic stem cells. Surely the scientists were speaking metaphorically.

They were not. The snidy of aging is undergoing a possibly profound change, and a handful of hiologists, whose huhris has not yet been punished with a thunderbolt from Mount Olympus, are beginning to think about interfering with the mechanisms that make the body mortal. Immortalizing a cell is of course very different from making an individual live forever. But because people are made of cells the two concepts have a deep and maybe exploitable link.

For decades biologists have known that the body's mortality is mirrored on ever, are immortal in the cell's sense of

the cellular level by an immutable rule called the Hayflick limit. Leonard Hayflick, now of the University of California ar San Francisco, discovered that when tissue cells are taken from the body and cultured in a laboratory dish, they grow and divide about 50 times ---the number varies with the kind of tissue and then lapse into senescence.

In January, Geron's biologists announced an electrifying finding: They had learned how to make human cells treak the Hayflick limit. The basis of the Hayflick rule is a section of DNA known as the telomere, which gets shorter each time the cell divides. When the telomeres reach a certain minimum length. the cell is thrown into a terminal crisis.

All cells possess a gene, known as the telomerase gene, which can restore the telomeres to their youthful length. But in most cells the gene is permanently repressed and inactive. Geron's discov ery was that by inserting a copy of the telomerase gene in active form into cells, it could make them grow and divide indefinitely.

For cells, the ability to divide indefinitely into two identical daughter cells is immortality. (The cell's atoms and molecules are continually being replaced, but its structure and informational content are unchanged from day to day.) For an individual, making clones of oneself in perpemity would hardly count as living forever. What stands between a person and immortality is that almost all the body's cells are mortal and, though they turn over, eventually cease to replace themselves efficiently. Two categories of body cell, how-

being able to divide indefinitely. One is the essence of life, the other of death. Cancer cells eventually learn how to unlock the holted down switches on the telomerase gene, and with this last de-fense in their hands can defy all the body's careful control mechanisms and

run rampant. The other kind of immortal cell is the all-purpose, embryonic stem cells from which the whole organism develops. In embryonic stem cells, too, the telomerase gene is active, and the cells can divide indefinitely as long as they remain embryonic. As the fetus develops, however, the embryonic stem cells dif-

> More Than One Way To Kick the Habit

ferentiate, meaning that they progress down a variety of different pathways to become the specialized cells that form

each of the body's different tissues. In the biologist's view it is differ-entiation that makes us mortal. As cells differentiate, they repress the telomerase gene. Some, like most brain and heart cells, seem never to divide again once the organism has reached maturity. Others, like skin and blood cells, can regenerate from stem cells specific to their tissue, but these tissue stem cells, descendants of the embryonic stem cells, also have a finite lifetime.

How then are embryonic cells gen-

erated from parents whose cells are ir-reversibly differentiated? In the embryo, a small number of stem cells are set aside, before embryonic development begins. and protected from differentiation. These I cells, known as embryonic germ cells, migrate to the developing ovary or testis, where they generate the egg or sperm for

the next generation. Thus there is a special lineage of cells that permanently resist terminal differentiation, cycling indefinitely from em-hryonic stem cell to embryonic germ cell, to oocyte or sperm, to fertilized egg and embryonic stem cell again.

Geron's second amazing advance of the year was the isolation of human embryonic stem cells by two groups of researchers whom the company financed. One reason for its success was that under its visionary founder, Michael West, the company worked with leading academic scientists in the telomere field. Because the embryonic stem cells were known to maintain permanently youthful telomeres, the company was drawn into the stem cell field and repeated the coup of signing up many of the leading university scientists in the field.

With its human embryonic stem cells and its telemerase gene, Geron has acquired two scientifically fascinating properties, though of course commercial pay-off may be years away. What the company hopes to do is to guide the embryonic stem cells down specific paths of differentiation toward becoming the specialized cells of heart, blood or any other desired tissue. Before being injected into a patient, these specialized cells could be immortalized by adding the telomerase gene in active form. The

tissues they formed in a patient

would then be permanently youthful.
(There would be a problem of immune rejection, which Geron has not yet addressed. Dr. West, now at another company, said recently that he hoped to sidestep rejection by generating embry-onic stem cells from the patient's body cells; their differentiated state would be reversed by fusing the cell with a cow's

If biologists can immortalize some of the body's cells by the Geron method, could they in time learn how to immortalize them all? William Haseltine, chairman of Human Genome Sciences in Rockville, Maryland, believes a solution lies with the tissue stem cells the provide for the regeneration of tissue like blood and skin. Tissue stem cells, descendants of the embryonic stem cells may exist for many or all tissues but only a few have so far been identified.

These tissue stem cells also get old in time and start to generate tired or com-promised cells. Dr. Haseltine's idea is to replace them, before they start to do harm, with tissue stem cells immortalized with telomerase.

HOMAS OKARMA, Geron's vice president for research, commented stemly that his own Making the body immortal "is indeed fanciful and certainly something we don't even contemplate here." he said. 'We are much more interested in dealing with the 20 or so degenerative discases that have no present treatment an could be addressed with immortalis

Tamping Down Nicotine's Image

By Denise Grady

to write about a into consideration. spectacular comespectability, and the tenuous nature of comebacks, a good subject might be nicotine.

for the highly addictive propdisorders, including stress, the intestinal condition ulcerative in Molecular Pharmacology. colitis, Alzheimer's disease, deficit disorder and Tourette's syndrome.

Nicotine-replacement prodwell as a product called an smoking cessation. inhaler, which is really a fake cigarette made of plastic that a person sucks to get a dose of menthol-flavored nicotine into the mouth and throat, but not

tongues to help fight their caution.
craving. In all the products, Her v the niconne is extracted from 10bacco leaves.

But just as nicotine approaches the edges of respect- attention deficit disorder. ability, a few researchers using nicotine products not just for the short periods the products were designed for, but for years.

proliferate and if more becounter, as the patches and gum already are. And if nicot- the lungs, blood vessels and other dangerous combustion times the usual dose.

ine or drugs chemically related to it do come into use to treat chronic diseases, the re-EW YORK - If a searchers say, there may be hiographer wanted important side effects to take

Recent studies directed by back from notoriety to re- Bianca Conti-Fine, a professor of hiochemistry and pharmacology at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis-After denouncing nicotine St. Paul, suggest that nicotine can damage cells that line erties that hook people on to- blood vessels and the airways bacco, scientists are rehabili- in the lungs. Papers by Dr. tating it, not only as a means of Conti-Fine and her col-helping smokers to hreak their leagues were published last habit, but also as a potential month in the Journal of Phartreatment for a variety of other macology and Experimental Therapeutics, and this month

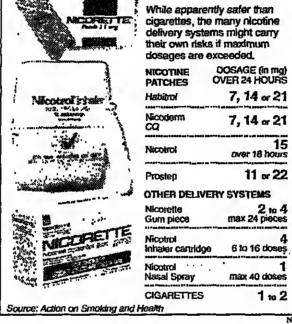
The findings, which have Parkinson's disease, attention raised concerns about the researchers in the field, have led Dr. Conti-Fine to warn ucts, developed to help people that nicotine patches, gum quit smoking, used to consist and other similar products only of chewing gum and skin may not be safe if they are patches, but now a nasal spray used beyond the three to six is available by prescription, as months recommended for

R. Conti-Fine said, "If I were a smoker, I would In addition, doctors are not forever. Long-term usage awaiting the approval of a might have the potential to nicotine tablet that patients cause problems, and I think it will dissolve under their should be looked at with great

Her warning extended to proposals to use nicotine over long term to treat disorders like Alzheimer's disease and

In studies of cells grown in replacement nicotine is safer cells lining the blood vessels cells. than smoking — and worth and lungs carry nicotine resome risk if it helps a person ceptors, molecules on the cell quit - a few are beginning to surface that link up with worry that some smokers are nicotine, which can then disrupt the cells. Normally, the receptors bind to a signaling molecule, acetylcboline, which plays an essential role They fear this use will only in sumulating the cells to increase if nicotine products maintain their shape and con-

nection to each other. As Dr. Conti-Fine described it, the cells that line



products among some other other surfaces in the body exist in a stretched and flattened shape and butt up against one another like floor tiles. By activating its receptor, acetylcholine directs the cells to stretch and flatten.

receptor in acetylcholine's place, it initially activates the receptor, but then causes it to stop working, a process called smoker, I would desensitization. When that certainly take the occurs, the signal to stretch is replacement for a while, but broken, and the cell balls up. smoke. But the replacement 'It rips off its connection with neighboring cells, and you make a hole. Dr. Conti-Fine said.

In the blood vessels, she continued, those holes may result in lesions that develop into artery disease. In the lungs, the holes may lead to bronchitis, and in smokers the holes may help other, cancerhave begun to raise caution the laboratory, she and her causing chemicals in cigaflags. Although all agree that colleagues have found that rette smoke to penetrate the

She said she was particularly concerned about "smokeless cigarettes," RJR ularly Nabisco's Eclipse and Philip Morris Cos. Accord, which are being marketed in some parts of the United States. The products release nicotine by heating tobacco rather than hurning it, and are marketed as safer than cigarettes because they expose the lungs to far lower levels of tars and

products. But Dr. Conti-Fine said that if, as her studies suggest, nicotine itself is harmful, then people who use the smokeless products still risk lung disease.

Nicotine gum and patches When nicotine parks at the do not expose the lungs to much nicotine, even from the bloodstream, Dr. Conti-Fine said, so its damaging effects on the lungs are unlikely to show up in people who use those products and do not products would expose the hlood vessels to nicotine. "This is very strong circumstantial evidence that nicotine would have a direct, facilitating action on atherosclerosis," Dr. Conti-Fine said.

O some researchers, the circumstantial nature of the evidence is a problem, particularly because there is no evidence from studies in people that nicotine gum or patches do any damage. And scientists have been on the lookout for harmful effects, especially on

the heart and arteries. A large study published in 1996 found no ill effects from nicotine gum, even among men who had used it regularly for five years. Another study showed oo health problems in men who wore three patches a

Alarms Over Antibiotics in Food

By Barry James

RUSSELS -- When laboratory tests showed that an unidentified Dutch poultry farmer had become infected with the same antibiotics-resistant bacteria as his chickens, alarm belis went off around Europe.

As a result, the 15-nation European Union is quite likely next month to ban four more widely used antibiotics in animal feed, in addition to 15 that have been banned in the past. This leaves only four antibiotics that may be used in feed to stimulate animal growth in the Union, and they will be closely watched.

The livestock, poultry and pharmacentical industries have long argued that the antiblotics sold for animal use are safe; and that there was no danger that they could create resistant bacteria strains that could infect humans. The case of the Dutch farmer, al-

though isolated, placed that The case of a Dutch farmer placed assumption in question. assumptions about the drugs in A panel of experts recommended banning the most widely used animal antibiot- livestock feed in question. ic, Tylosin phosphate, along with Virginiamycin, Bacitra-

cin Zine and Spiramycin because they are similar enough to drugs used to human medicine to fear that resistance could be passed across the species barrier through gene transfer.

A spokesman for the European Com-mission, the EU executive body, said the experts could not prove that the widespread use of the drugs would cause antibiotic resistance in humans, but they could not disprove it either. Since the animal antibiotics concen-

trate in the gut, which is removed before carcasses are sent to market, the risk of the drugs getting into the human food chain was thought to be nonexistent. Bur the spokesman, Gerard Kiely, said the Dutch example was a possible indication that the bacteria could be propagated through the atmosphere rather than, as more commonly feared, by eating animals or poultry that have been fed the substances. "Scientists are saying that we are getting very close to the last line of defense," Mr. Kiely said. Experts acknowledge that the evi-dence for the prosecution is slender. But

the outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or "mad cow" disease, in Britain - and its as yet incalculable effect on human health - has made the EU sensitive to other food dangers, said Emma Bonnino, commissioner for consumer policy and health protection.

"The BSE crisis is not the only but probably the most glaring example of how consumer confidence in food and food safety has been shaken," she said. Genetically modified food, the use of growth promoters, the existence of pesticide and dioxine residues in food, salmonella, E. coli, anti-microbial resistance all add to widespread consumer unease about what they eat."

The antibiotics ban could lead to another trade problem with the United States, with which the EU already is in conflict over its refusal to admit imports of hormone-treated beef. Two of the four manufacturers that would be affected by the proposed antibiotics ban are American-owned - Pfizer Inc. which makes Virginiaraycin, and Elanco Anistal Health, a division of Eli Lilly &. Co.; which makes Tylosin phosphate.

committee, which is looking at the

whole question of drug-resistant bac-

teria, will vote in December on the pro-

posed ban, which could go into effect on Jan. 1. Mr. Kiely said it was important to

advance solid scientific reasons for in-posing a ban. Without them, the EU would be open to a challenge in the World Trade Organization, as it has been in the case of hormones in bed

. The experts' recommendation does

not apply to the use of the antibiotics for the treatment of animal diseases, but to

their routine use in feeds. Regular low doses of antibiotics not only help keep

livestock healthy, but also improve the absorption of nutrients, which helps the

animals grow faster on less feed, and thus

increase profits, particularly in intensive

farming operations. The four antibiotics

under suspicion are widely used in pig

and poultry raising, where animals or birds are closely confined in pens or

cages and at risk from cross-infections.

If the ban is adopted, Mr. Kiely estimated, about 1,600 tons of antibiotics,

or 15 percent of the total used by both

humans and animals in the EU, would be

removed from circulation. The manu-

facturers stand to lose a market worth

several hundred million dollars.

exemptions from EU rules. In a Darwinian adaptation, some strains of bacteria have become resistant to one or many of the antibiotics used in

Sweden, Finland and Denmark have

long opposed using antibiotics in feed.

and have banned them under temporary

human medicine. Doctors warn that this may lead to some diseases, such as inherculosis, or even common infections becoming untreatable. The prospect of completely resistant bacteria — through misuse by humans rather than through the use of antibiotics to animal hasbandry — has some researchers warning of "the coming plague."

Bacteria, single-cell micro-organism that have survived for billions of years.

can multiply explosively within short generation spans. Their ability to swap genes makes their development unpredictable and dangerous. The big fear of many researchers is that resistance to an

antibiotic called varicomycin could spread from enterococcii. which are found in the human or animal gut, to another bac-teria called staphylococcus aureus. If this happened, there would be no defense against an estimated 25 percent of staph infections, often acquired in

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KAPE

The commission's scientific steering hospitals, for which vancomycin is the only remedy. One animal antibiotic, avoparcin, was banned three years ago because experts considered that it could lead to the emergence of bacteria resistant to vancomycin.

> CANADIAN study indicated that the use of antibiotics in livestock raising was leading to mutations of salmonella and E. coli bacteria that can cause serious and sometimes fatal illnesses in humans.

Although examples of gene transfer have been observed in the lab, veterinary researchers have argued that the use of antibiotics to promote the healthy growth of animals posed no risk to human health. Most bacteria in animals are incapable of surviving in humans. Without the protection provided by regular doses of antibiotics, animals could be at greater risk from disease, such as the outbreak of "scours" or diarrhea that afflicted pigs in Sweden after growth promoters were banned there. Epidemics of animalities ease could lead veterinarians to use also tibiotics widely for therapeutic purposes, defeating the purpose of a ban on growth promoters. And experts say that a ban would almost certainly lead to higher prices in the supermarket.

IN BRIEF

Man Is Moving Fingers of New Hand

NEW YORK (NYT) - An Australian man who received a transplanted hand and forearm in France seven weeks ago has begun moving each finger of the new hand and is gaining function with surprising swiftness, his doctors said last week. They said that so far the man, Clint Hallam, had not shown any signs of rejection and had escaped adverse effects of potent immune-suppressing drugs.

A rejection reaction can occur at any time in someone who has received another person's tissue. If such a reaction occurs. in Mr. Hallam, his doctors said, they are confident they can control u with standard drugs. Hallam is "far shead of sched ule, doing superbly and better than any of us ever would have hoped," said Earl Owen, an Australian microsurgeon who headed the international team that performed the transplant.

Attention Deficit Disorder a Mystery

BETHESDA, Maryland (Reuters) - U.S. scientific experts said last week that they still know little about "attention" deficit hyperactivity disorder," despite years of diagnosis and treatment of the condition in children.

The most common childhood behavioral affliction, ADHD strikes 3 percent to 5 percent of the U.S. population from 4 to

"Although the fossil meteorite is only a tenth of an inch ing
14 years old. Such children are often unable to six still or
engage in group play or follow rules, and can be disruptive, sediment." Mr. Kyte said. "In this dark brown sediment," I distracted or unpopular with classmates.

"After years of research and clinical experience with psychiatrist and chairman of a panel convened by the National Institutes of Health to study the condition.

Most of the experts said there was no evidence that drugs like Ritalin are being overprescribed to treat the disorder. The panel supported the use of such short-term medication, but no for more than a year.

"The diagnosis is a mess," said Daniel Guze, a panelist who is a psychiatrist at Washington University in St. Louis-But he said children with ADHD were easily recognizable: "If you've been around children, these kids stick out like sore

The NIH panel met for more than two days. Its mission was to describe the impact of ADHD on society and families; effective treatments and directions for future research.

Piece of Devastating Asteroid Found?

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - An American scientist said last week that he had found a tiny fossilized chunk of a huge asteroid that is believed to have crashed into Earth 65 million years ago and caused the extinction of the dinosaurs.

Frank Kyte, a geophysicist at the University of California at Los Angeles, said the chunk was encrusted in mud and buried beneath 150 feet (45 meters) of sediment in the north Pacific Ocean. Researchers believe the sediment layer contains the record of a large asteroid or comet impact.

saw this small white speck." Mr. Kyte, who presented his analysis of the rock in the Nov. 19 issue of the journal Nature. "After years of research and clinical expenence want analysis of the confirmed his discovery after finding it contained lots." Said David Knofer, a University of Pittsburgh of indium. He said the fossil allowed him to conclude that the huge space object that struck Mexico's Yucatan peninsula was probably an asteroid, not a comet

land, say their research showed that people did less well on tasks performed in front of audiences who were rooting for them than they did in front of those who were not. The study was published in the November issue of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.
To study the effects of supportive audiences, the researchers organized

By Holcomb B. Noble

dance contest, you may want to have

Mom and Dad --- and anyone else who

of Wittenberg University in Springfield,

Ohio, and Roy Baumeister of Case

Western Reserve University in Cleve-

Two psychologists, Jennifer Butler

wants you to excel ---- stay bome.

suggests that if you have to

make a speech at the stock-

three laboratory experiments. In the first, 40 people were seated before a performers would receive cash. Sefore distracting than their reactions to those

curately as possible starting with the number 1470.

Half were told that a friend was seated on the other side of the one-way mirror, balf were told that a stranger holders' meeting, give your was there. Those believing they were performing in front of a friend made a first piano recital or do the tango in a median number of 17.2 correct subtractions, 1.7 errors and a total of 18.9 calculations. Those told they were before a stranger performed more calculations with fewer errors: with 23 correct subtractions, 2.8 errors and 25.8 calculations.

In the second experiment 23 subjects were asked to perform a difficult video game - flying a simulated aircraft through an obstacle course quickly and were told that all observers were strangers. But half of the observers would receive a cash prize, as the performers would, if the performance surpassed a certain score.

The other half were told that only the of disappointing them, may be more one-way mirror and asked to count observers who would receive cash, the you don't care about them."

Better Hope the Audience Isn't Rooting for You backward by 13 as quickly and ac- performers took 10 seconds longer and crashed four times as often as those performing before an audience with no financial interest in the outcome.

The third experiment, with 93 participants, was the same as the second, except that the subjects were told that a third group of observers was added that would receive the cash prize if the performers failed.

In this test, steps were taken to account for possible personality, emotional and skill-proficiency differences among the performers. Here the differences were smaller, but, again, the performers were faster and crashed less often before the adversarial group than the supporting group.
Why should this be?

Concentration, most students of peak performance agree, is the key to skilled performance. And, Mr. Baumeister said, "people's reactions to those who support them, including fear

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New 'Megaships' Too Big for Ports to Handle

By Susan Diesenhouse New York Times Service

-t NEW YORK — The megaships are ming. But where will they dock?

A new generation of immense cargo ships, more than 1,100 feet (330 meters)

long and bearing up to 6,675 containers, as poised to capture a significant share of is poised to capture a significant share of ocean shipping, but no port in the United States is fully equipped to handle the ships when they are loaded to capacity. O' Five ports on the Atlantic coast are competing to be the megaship destination for one of the world's largest shipping lines, the alliance of Maersk, owned by the A.P. Moller conglominate of Denmark, and the Sea-Land unit of CSX Corp. Maersk/Sea-Land is expected to winnow the list to two finalists. bected to winnow the list to two finalists this week and make its final selection by the end of the year.

At stake are billions of dollars of trade, investment and employment that will flow to and through the main deepwater port for half a continent.

Maersk/Sea-Land, whose current wase in the Port of New York and New Jersey expires in 2000, wants its next home to provide 25 years' exclusive use of a fully modernized terminal with easy road and rail access and waterways 50 feet deep, matching major ports such as Rotterdam and Singapore.

Operations that fit the bill cannot now.

be found anywhere in North America; said John Pisani, director of ports and domestic shipping for the maritime administration of the U.S. Transportation

Department.
"The United States, the greatest trading nation in the world, cannot handle the greatest ships in the world," Mr. Pisani said.

Continued absence of a megaship port on each coast "would be a critical

by sea, and the Defense Department. belies on commercial ports and transportation centers to supply unlitary operations overseas.

An expansion project is already under way in the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, California, that will allow in the Atlantic side, the post will be chosen from among New York/New Jersey; Baltimore; Norfolk, Virginia. Halifax, Nova Scotia: and the former naval base at Quonset Point, Rhode Island. The eventual winner will have to spend heavily to prepare to handle the giant ships.

r Three dozen of the new giant cargo ships - none built in the United States or operating under a U.S. flag - are already in service and 45 more are on job that poses thorny environmental

the current megaship models.

Megaships already carry about 25 percent of the world's ocean-borne containerized freight, including 5 percent to 10 percent of U.S. imports and exports (by scraping in and out of existing ports

with partial loads).

By 2010, they will carry up to 40 percent of world container cargo and about a third of U.S. trade, excluding bulk commodities such as oil and grain, according to M. John Vickerman, a transportation consultant in Reston,

The engine driving the move to big-ger ships is cost. Ton for ton of cargo, the bigger the ship, the cheaper it is to

'Given their economy of scale, in the future the megaships will increase their market share and make as few port calls as possible," said Kurt Nagle, president of the American Association of Port Authorities.

Maersk/Sea-Land's search is precipitating a shakeout among North American ports that will be echoed when each of the three other global shipping al-liances — groups led by P&O Nedlloyd Container Line, Neptune Orient Lines Ltd. and the shipping unit of the Hanjin conglomerate of South Korea - move to establish North American megaterminals of their own, Mr. Vickerman

Ports that do not win one or more of the big terminals will be limited to secondary roles in a hub-and-spoke system like that used in the airline industry and will wither further without mod-

Upgrading a port to receive megaships can take a decade or more - and cost billions of dollars. Wharves must be equipped with a dozen or more huge container cranes, which can cost \$6

blow to the nation's ability to compete in world trade," he added.

Ninety percent of U.S. imports arrive freight to and from the ships requires complexes of terminals equipped with computatized tracking systems. Quon-set lacks all of these; Baltimore and

Halifax need upgrades in these areas. Cargo must be able to flow conveniently to and from the port on high-speed truck routes and modern rail lines with accommodate continuers stacked two

Quantit's hard transportation links are rudimentary, and Norfolk and Halifax are each served by only one railroad. Halifax is also hundreds of miles farther than the other competitors from the major North American population centers, requiring far longer surface transportation links.

Shipping channels and berths must be dredged to a depth of at least 50 feet, a order, some of them bigger than even problems in some ports.

Bidding for a Megaterminal Five Attents ports are wing to be chosen as the that experts say will exempally te charic freight shipping:

charic freight shipping:

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charic freight shipping

charic freight cargo volume: ME Deep channel Excellent rail access

Cranes and terminals need only minor upgrade Closest to Europe DISADVANTAGES Small local market wet Point # Far from Northeast cargo volume: 0

and Midwest

markets of the U.S.

Plenty of land ₩ Only one railroad **S** Close to Northeast cities DISADVANTAGES # No cranes or terminals My rail access rig required

ADVANTAGES

New York/New Jersey 1997 cargo volume: 1,738,000 containers

Close to other Northeast cities and the Good rail and road access

Cranes and terminals need only minor DISADVANTAGES

ME Expensive, difficult dredging needed 職 High labor costs # Political haggling impedes progress

Baltimore

ADVANTAGES

1997 cargo volume:

Northeast cities and the Midwest

Mostly good shore

Good road and rail

260,000 containers

E Close to other

operations

DISADVANTAGES

糖 Far from open

羅 Some dredging

access

осеап

Norfolk 1997 cargo volume: 825,000 containers* **ADVANTAGES**

準 Close to the Midwest **题 Mostly good shore**

DESADVANTAGES Only one railroad Small local market # Far from Northeast

Some dredg *Includes Harnoton Roads

required Sources: Transystems Corporation, Journal of Commerce (volume)

would also need dredging, though the cially difficult to dredge: Bedrock work would be easier; only Halifax is now deep enough for a fully loaded A lack of coordination among ship-

ping lines, land carriers, environmental

See PORT, Page 17

CYBERSCAPE

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Microsoft and Oracle Battle for Database Business

By Mitchell Martin

nternational Herald Tribune AS VEGAS — They seem like unlikely lances in the jousts beween Microsoft Corp. and Oracle Corp. over the future of computing, but databases were the weapon chosen last week for the latest round in the running battle between the

rival software makers. Behind some jargon-laden product announcements at the Comdex autumn trade show was the larger dispute be-twent the software companies: whether most computing should take place on big centralized servers or on smaller machines located near their users.

. Microsoft supports the idea of many small servers, which gives users control

Oracle, which is trying to break what it perceives as Microsoft's monopoly over computing, wants fewer, larger servers, placing control in the hands of the people who manage the big machines and simplifying the work of the end users, who would be freed from

such chores as upgrades.

Lawrence Ellison, Oracle's chairman, began speaking about network computing in 1995. In his original concept, there would be computers without disk drives that would largely be used to access networks -- including the Internet. Such machines would cost about \$600, less than half the price of standard desktop units at the time. But as prices for full-fledged com-

over what is on their computers but requires them to maintain their systems. puters have fallen below \$1,000, the attraction of network computers has diminished, though even smaller handheld devices are being used to access the Internet, and electronic commerce is growing at a phenomenal rate.

New York harbor would be espe-

would have to be hlasted in some places

to reach the necessary depth, and sed-

iments on the harbor floor are heavily

contaminated with industrial toxins

dumped over the last century.

Baltimore, Norfolk and Quonset

So Mr. Ellison was correct in his view that interest in network computing would grow. When people use Internet services through personal computers or other devices, they are essentially allowing the processing to be done by network servers, where Oracle's products are likely to be found. The company says that the 10 most popular consumer Web sites and nine of the top 10 business-to-business sites are built atop its databases.

Databases are programs that contain information that can be searched according to various criteria.

Companies use databases for a variety of reasons, but one key area besides the Internet is as a base for enterprise software: huge integrated programs that run many facets of large businesses from ordering supplies to scheduling workers. About a quarter of databases sold are used to support these enterprise resource planning programs, which are principally supplied by SAP AG, PeopleSoft Inc. and Baan Co.

Microsoft is trying to increase its share of the market for database products that ran on its Windows operating systems. Databases from Oracle and other competitors can run on Windows, Unix or other operating systems. At Comdex, Microsoft carried the

See BATTLE, Page 17

EU Socialists Seek 'New European Way'

Finance Ministers to Focus on Labor Policy

By Barry James International Herald Tribung

BRUSSELS -- Socialist-led European Union governments have pledged to increasingly pursue common policies on taxation, wages and prices when the single currency, the euro, comes into effect on Jan. 1, Finance Minister Rudolf Edlinger of Austria said Sunday.

Speaking on the eve of a meeting of EU finance ministers here, Mr. Edlinger said that although tax, wage and price policy remained the prerogative of the national governments, the completion of economic and monetary union would inevitably lead to greater "harmoniz-

ation" of policies. Mr. Edlinger was introducing what he called a discussion document, "The New European Way," approved hy socialist ministers who now dominate the

EU's policy-setting finance council.

The document, which sets out the path to "economic reform in the frame-work of EMU," is orthodox from a

monetarist standpoint. It glosses over the debate about the policy mix between the growth oriented policies sought by several socialist governments and the independent role of the new European Central Bank in creating conditions of monetary stability and low inflation.

Bnt Mr. Edlinger said the document marked a departure from the policies pursued by former conservative administrations, such as that of former Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Germany, in that it places much greater emphasis on the need to create jobs through taxation and

He said that for the past 12 years, the tax horden has fallen mainly on labor, and that this burden would have to be shifted more toward taxes on capital and energy. The extent to which this shift takes place, he said, depends on the power of the various socialist parties, several of which are subject to agreemeans with coalition partners.

He said ministers were not challen-

ging the independence of the central bank, but agreed that there had to be a much more serious discussion of policies between naoonal governments and the Frankfurt-based hank, which will assume the responsibility for setting interest and exchange rates when

the euro comes into being.

'You must have coordination,' he said. "Monetary policy is not an end in itself, but financial and monetary policies must benefit people.

Mr. Edlinger said he hoped that governments would cooperate in reducing the EU unemployment, now at 16 million workers, with the same intensity with which, over the past four years, they had succeeded in bringing II nations into economic and monetary union.

The document says that the state should step in when it is a question of maintaining efficient public services, or

of preventing technological change from creating new forms of inequality. On the question of tax coordination, the document says that taxation should not be allowed to distort economic decisions with regard to labor, capital and

But along with a commitment to full employment, the document emphasizes that the socialist parties are also determined to follow policies leading to monetary stability and sustained fiscal

It says that the ECB must pursue a olicy of "credibility, certainty and predictability," but must also contribute to a debate on the relacionship between monetary policy and employment and

wage policies. The bank will keep its decision-making processes a secret for 16 years to ensure that its board members can act independently of all pressures from national governments. But Mr. Edlinger said it was nonetheless important for the countries that adopt the euro to know what the arguments are so that they play constructive role in policy-making. We are at the beginning of the de-

Bertelsmann Taps Science

Media Conglomerate Buys Into Medical Publisher

By Doreen Carvajal New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The media conglomerate Bertelsmann AG has deepened its wide-ranging investments in books hy signing a deal to huy a majority stake in a top international publisher of scientific and medical books.

The acquisition of an 82 percent stake in Axel Springer Verlag AG for 1 billion Deutsche marks (\$593.8 million) will allow Bertelsmann to make new inroads into the U.S. market.

Springer Verlag is Germany's largest publisher of scientific journals and technical books, with beadquarters in Berlin and publishing houses all over the world, including New York.

The acquisition of the privately owned company, which is subject to approval by European regulators, is part of an aggressive push hy Bertelsmann to become a dominant player in science and technical publishing — a market that is expected to grow faster than consumer or popular books in the next few years.

The purchase is the latest in a series of highly visible acquisioons by the German conglomerate, which this year took over Random House Inc., a leading American trade publisher, and in October struck a deal with Barnes & Noble Inc. to participate in a joint venture in the chain's on-line bookstore. It comes on the heels of Havas SA's

agreement Friday to acquire the software arm of Cendant Corp. for up to acquisioons.

\$985 million, creating a rival to Learning Co., the market leader in educational software, and spearheading a push by Havas's corporate parent, Vivendi SA, into the fast-growing fields of software and media.

Bertelsmann itself is involved in discussions with Havas to pool their professional publications in a joint venture. A deal is expected to be finalized by the end of December.

Bertelsmann and Havas are already equal partners in Doyma, the biggest medical publisher in Spain. Thomas Middelhoff, chief execuove at Bertelsmann, said that if their new joint venture happened that would catapult Bertelsmann into the top tier of professional publishing.
According to Matthew Bechard, as-

sociate editor for Simha Information, which tracks the professional and sci-entific publishing market. The whole industry is becoming very consolidat-

Almost 25 percent of Springer's annual revenue of 615 million DM comes from the United States, where it has a flourishing publishing house in New York City. More than 60 percent of the

company's publications are in English. Part of Springer's appeal was its advanced electronic network, which offers more than 400 technical and medical journals through an information service called Link, said Mr. Middelhoff, who has been the driving force behind the

CURRENCY RATES

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19 MG Bank (Austinetum), KBC Bank (Bressnis), Banca Commerciale flows on MG Bank (Austinetum), KBC Bank of Tokyo Austrolish (Tokyo); Royd Bank of Harisan de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo Austrolish (Paris); Barcambarg and Revie the Associated Press, Barcambarg and Revie By Daniel Liefgreen Special to the Herold Tribune

ROME - The government offer of shares in Banca Nazionale del Lavoro SpA, one of Italy's largest commercial banks, drew huge demand from retail and institutional investors, making it the most successful privatization in the Italian financial sector thus far.

But the government and executives at the bank have little time to celebrate. Bankers and analysts say Banca Nazionale del Lavoro must move decisively to carry out an ambitious threeyear "strategic industrial plan" against the backdrop of fierce competition and broad changes sweeping through the

Italian banking system. Demand for shares in the fifth-largest Italian bank was much higher than expectations. The Treasury said it earned 6.7 trillion lire (\$4.01 billion) from the sale; at the beginning of the month, the government was expected to earn 5 trillion lire from the sale.

"It was a great result, achieved in a climate on financial markets that was anything but easy," Treasury Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi said Sanuday. following the closure of the five-day BNL, which has been governmentimprove its performance and its image following a major scandal in the early

BNL Share Sale Is a Hit With Italian Investors

Retail investors requested nearly six times the amount of shares offered. The Treasury announced Saturday that small savers would pay 4,550 lire per share, while institutional investors would pay 4,700 lire per share. The Treasury also is selling a combined 25 percent stake to three "core" shareholders, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya SA of Spain, the Italian insurer Istinuto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni SpA and the regional Italian

savings bank Banca Popolare Vicentina. 'The Treasury and bank showed a lot of courage to hit the market right after the recent turnoil," said Emanuele Minotti, a banking analyst at Salomon Smith Barney in London. But now, said an analyst at foreign

bank in Milan, who asked not to be identified, "they have to deliver the goods, they have to meet their objec-The key aspects of BNL's strategy include continuing to cut costs, expanding its core business in the retail and

corporate sectors, increasing nonin-

terest income - in particular, by broad-

ening its business in asset management

- and enlarging its capital. The bank aims for a return on equity of 14 percent owned since the 1920s, has undergone a by 2001.
"The 14 percent target is credible," radical restructuring in recent years to

TO THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF

the Milan analyst said. "But by the year 2001, other banks may be averaging returns on equity of 15 to 20 percent."

BNL's chief executive officer, Davide Croff, a former executive at the Bank of Italy and at Fiat SpA, said "major restructuring" was already under way at the bank. Mr. Croff joined the bank in 1989 when it had just become embroiled in a scandal involving about \$5 billion of illegal loans made by its Atlanta branch to the government of Iraq.

Mr. Croff told reporters prior to the share offer that the bank's balance sheet was strengthened substantially in 1997 when it wrote down certain assets and sharply increased provisions for bad loans. It recorded net losses in 1997 but has bounced back to profit this year. For the first six months of the year, BNL reported consolidated group net profit of 82 billion lire, up nearly 19 percent from the comparable 1997 period.

Still, Mr. Croff said the bank would not pay a dividend on its 1998 financial

He said BNL already had cut its work force by 2,000 in the last two years and aimed to slash it by an additional 3,300 over the next 3 years, mainly through early retirement. In addition, it is shifting 1,000 employees from administrative functions to sales areas.

"The core business is retail and corporate," he said.



Registered Office: Luxembourg R.C. Luxembourg B-6734

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS PAYMENT OF INTERIM DIVIDEND

An interim dividend of US\$ 0.85 per ordinary share and US\$ 0.95 per preferred share will be paid for the current fiscal year.

Such dividend will be payable, subject to the laws and regulations applicable in each country, starting December 9, 1998, against surrender of coupon no. 3 of the ordinary sbare certificates and coupon no. 3 of the preferred share certificates, at the offices of the paying agents listed below:

- in Luxembourg: Bauque Internationale à Luxembourg; in Italy: all the leading banks;
- in Switzerland: Crédit Suisse, Banca Commerciale Italiana (Suisse);
- in France: Lazard Frères & Cie; in the Federal Republic of Germany: Commerzbank; in Great Britain: SBC Warburg, Lazard Brothers & Co.;

in The Netherlands: ABN-AMRO Bank;

in Belgium: Banque Bruxelles Lambert

The Principal Paying Agent Banque Internationale à Luxembourg Société Anonyme

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THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY

With Market at Nosebleed Levels,' Value May Rest in Mundane Picks

chic restaurant of the Royalton Hotel in midtown Manhattan — so stylish there is no name, not even a street number, on the door - a rumpled money manager named Scott Black is gesticulating wildly as he speaks in his Maine accent, ruffling his papers, prac-tically grabbing me by the lapels. This is

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one passionate guy. He is talking about how high the stock market has run up. These are nosebleed levels! It's ridiculous! Welsome to Holland and the tnlip bulbs," he said, referring to the famous mania of 1634-37, when the Dutch were paying free times their annual income for

So, what has Mr. Black done with the \$1 billion he manages for such clients as Johns Hopkins University and the Irvine

Most Active International Bonds

TASHINGTON In the chic restaurant of the chic

"By any historical measurement, the market is overpriced," he said. "But that doesn't keep me out of the market. This is a market of stocks, not a stock market. We can find companies that are reasonably valued and in good busi-

Instead of buying Coca-Cola Co. or soming internet stocks, he has been buying small capitalization "value" stocks - mostly companies people have never heard of, often in stultifyingly boring businesses, so un-chic that their chief executives would probably be banished from the Royalton's restaurant for eating the pumpkin risotto with a spoon, not a fork.

Mr. Black is not alone. After scoffing at small-company stocks for years, Wall Street is finally taking notice. On Oct. 9. for reasons no one can quite figure out,

At any rate, over the next few weeks, the Russell 2000 index, which tracks

these shares, shot up more than 20 percent. But there is lots of room to catch

ue" galaxy of the small-cap universe. slimmer, Mr. Black has found a com-Value stocks are ones that have been shunned by Mr. Market, that metaphorical manie-depressive who stands for all

JAMES K. GLASSMAN / ON INVESTING

still down 10 percent for the year, while the Standard & Poor's 500 was up 20 percent. Many smart investors maintain that the divergence between large- and small-caps cannot last.

"Small-caps are incredibly cheap," said Ken Greiner of Dalton, Greiner, Hartman, Maher & Co., a New York firm that manages money for such big institutions as American Express Co. But not all small-caps are great buys,

up. At the close Friday, the Russell was investors, and appear cheap by normal standards such as price-earnings ratios.

A recent report by Erie Sorenson and two colleagues at Salomon Smith Barney Research called for a "fili to - in part to correct another imbalance. "Growth" stocks (the ones Mr. Market goes nuts over) have been vastly outperforming value stocks over the past five years. So small-cap value could be a confluence that presents profitable opportunities.

Mr. Black certainly thinks so, and it is worth paying attention to him. Since 1980, his portfolios have returned an average of 19.2 percent annually, compared with 17.0 percent for the S&P and be has done it with stocks that have less volatility than the overall market. "No exotic strategies," promises Mr. Black's firm, Delphi Management Inc. of Boston. Nothing but straight bot-

toms-up stock picking. What does be like? First, a Silicon Valley-based company that is not in high technology. It is Ross Stores Inc., a chain that sells off-price women's clothing in 350 outlets, mainly in California and Florida. It is run well, with profits growing at about 15 percent annually, but it trades at a P/E of just 12.

Mr. Black has also been buying shares of a tiny (market capitalization \$80 million) husiness with a great brand name: Gerber Childrenswear Inc., which was spun off from the baby-food company in June and sells at a P/E of

He is enthusiasoc, too, about three overlooked regional banks: Peoples Heritage Financial Group Inc. in New England, a profitable institution with a P/E, based on earnings estimates for the year ahead, of just 10; Colonial Banc-Group Inc., which concentrates in Alabama and Florida and has loans growing at 15 percent a year and a P/E of 11, and Sovereign Bancorp Inc., with 300 branches in eastern Pennsylvania and a P/E, according to Mr. Black's projections, of just 10. High tech? While the pickings are pany called InVision Technologies Inc., which makes an explosive detection system used in airport security. The

company has installed its expensive machines, which check luggage as it goes into the cargo bold, in Israel and Britain and the United States. Based on his estimates, the P/E is just 10. Mr. Greiner has a very different list which indicates just how many small-cap bargains are out there — and a slightly different style. While Mr.

chase inexpensive companies that do not icll "a great growth story."

Like Mr. Black, he picks stocks, not sectors, but he is especially fond lately of restaurant chains, which have been

Black looks for value stocks that have

sbown signs of double-digit profit in-

creases, Mr. Greiner is willing to pur-

clobbered this year. Mr. Greiner's favorites are Sharro Inc., a string of 862 restaurants that feature pizza and pasta, and Landry's Scafood Restaurants Inc., with 122 out-

lets in 26 states. Sbarro has an excellent balance sheet, with loads of cash. The stock, Mr. Greiner says, is significantly undervalued, and it is likely that management will do something - perhaps purchase another business, buy up its own shares or get bought out - to increase its value to shareholders.

Landry's has had disappointing earnings this year, but Mr. Greiner maintains that they are related to weather, not to a fading product. The stock has dropped 68 percent since Jan. I and now trades at a P/E of 6,

Mr. Greiner, whose firm's investments have outstripped the S&P by an average of 9 percentage points annually over the past three years, also likes Plantronics Inc., which makes telephone headsets. Popular with telcmarketers, they are now being wom by normal business folks who like to keep their hands free while they talk on the telephone. Unfortunately, Plantronics has soared 64 percent since the start of the year, so it is not screaming "buy" anymore. "On our system, it is marginal," said Mr. Greiner, whose firm also started serving in June as sub-adviser to a public mnutal fund, MainStay Small-Cap Value, Watch for dips.

Meanwhile. Edward Elfenbein of Microcap Stock Digest, another small-cap

maven who has kept the faith, added a recommendation this month for Vertex Communications Corp., which makes antenna systems for satellite communications. Thanks mainly to concern over Asia, the stock has dropped 29 percent this year and now trades at a P/E

Finally, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter has started a "recommended list of our favorite small-capitalization investment ideas."

It currently includes just seven names, including Foodmaker Inc., which operates more than 1,000 Jack in the Box fast-food restaurants, at a P/E of 10; Terex Corp., a maker of heavy-duty trucks and cranes, at a P/E of 8 despite long-term earnings growth of 16 percent annually, according to Bloomberg News, and Novel Denim Holdings Ltd., which provides denim garments and fabrics, mainly to Europe, at a P/E of 12 and a growth rate of 25 percent.

That is more choices than the menu at the Royalton has. Anyway, I understand pumpkin risotto is trading at a ridiculously high P/E.

Home Builders: Sunny Exposure?

The stocks of home builders have had a rough time this year down 6 percent while the market is up 18 percent But a Merrill Lynch & Co. analyst, Robert Curran, sees a rebound. While there are still worries about rising interest rates and a slowing economy, orders are up 15 percent. Valuations such as priceto-earnings ratios are less than half those of the stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500 index.

Mr. Curran especially likes companies "with a major exposure to California," including Lennar Corp., at a P/E (based on estimates for next year) of 8, and Kaufman & Broad Home Corp., with a ratio of 8. He also recommends D.R. Horton Inc., at a P/E of 10; Toll Brothers Inc., with a P/E of 8. Centex Corp., with a P/E of 11, and Pulie Corp., also with a P/E of 11.

- JAMES K. GLASSMAN

The 250 most active international bonds traded Can Meturity Price Crt Yd through the Euroclear system for the week end-ing Nov. 20. Prices supplied by Telekurs. Rok Numbe Con Maturity Price Crt Yd 158 France OAT 59 2ero 10/25/19 33.9100 3.0000 178 France OAT 5P 2ero 10/25/19 33.9100 3.0000 178 France OAT 5P 2ero 04/25/29 29.1700 4.0700 204 Cybarvol FRN 3.573 07/06/02 100.0600 3.5700 211 France OAT 7/0 04/25/26 120.2100 6.2400 249 Austria 290 10/20/05 99.8229 3.9100 Belgian Franc Italian Lira 915 02/01/99 100.9800 9,4100 Spanish Peseta

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The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Nov. 23-27. A schedule of this week's sconomic and trianclel events, compiled for the international Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News

Expected Camberra: National Farmers' Fed- ... Madrid: Finance Ministry releases The Week eration holds annual meeting. Speakers Include Prime Minister

Tuesday

John Howard, Tuesday and Wednesday, National Convention Hong Kong: Government releases consumer price index for October,

ply and foreign exchange reserves.

Taipei: Government releases Tai-

wan third-quarter gross domestic

Berlin: Germany's European Movement and Dresdner Bank AG sponsor a conference on "The New Role retail sales statistics for September. Taipel: Government releases October unemployment figures. Central. bank releases October money sup-

and Tasks of the Bundesbank After the Introduction of the Euro." Hotel

Europe

budget deficit figures for the central

government. Tuesday to Thursday.

Ottawa: Government releases Frankfurt: Hans Tielmeyer, president of the Bundesbank, speaks at September international securities opening of a conference on credit transaction figures: September emrisk sponsored by German central ployment insurance figures. bank Palmengarten. Paris: Government releases data Washington: Conference Board releases its consumer confidence inon third-quarter new housing sales. dex for November.

Wednesday Seout: Nam Kee Lee, vice chairman London: Government releases visble trade balance for September . of the Fair Trade Commission, gives and trade balance figures with nona briefing at Seoul Foreign Corre-European union countries for Ocspondents' Club on the governmentpolicy on corporate restructuring.

Paris: Government reports final inflation figures for October. Paris: Government reports preliminary figures on gross domestic product for the third quarter, business

Mexico City: Government releases export-assembly industry output for Ottawa: Government releases 1997 revised net farm income.

Vancouver Board of Trade holds a

omy." Tuesday, Pan Pacific Hotel.

Mexico City: Government releases

tober, September retail and whole-

Washington: Treasury releases its October budget statement.

Mexico City: Govamment releases

gross domestic product figures, un-

adjusted for inflation, for the third

Washington: Commerce Depart-

ment reports personal income and

spending for October.

preliminary trade balance for Oc-

forum on "The New Japan Econ-

Mexico City: Government releases September employment hourly earn-

New International Bond Issues

	Amount (millions)	Mat.	Coup.	Price	Price end week	Yerons
Floating Rate Notes						
Australia & New Zealand Banking Group	\$250	2000	libor	99.9327	<u>-</u>	Interest will be the 3-month Libor, Noncollable, Fees 0.0625%. (Nomura Securities.)
First Security Bank	\$50	2003	3/0	99.67	_	Over 3-month Libor. Noncollable. Fungible with outstanding issue, raising total amount to \$25 million. Fees 0.20%. (Deutsche Bank.)
Oscar Funding	\$250	2003	0.60	100.00		Over 1-month Libor. Average life 1.6 years, Fees 0.40%. Denominations \$100,000. (DKB Intl.)
Instituto de Credito Oficial	ECU300	2001	0.08	100%	_	Below 3-month Libor. Nonculable. Fees 0.125%. (Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.)
SNS Bank Nederland	ECU300	2003	1/8	99.584		Over 3-month Liber. Noncollable. Fungible with autstanding issue, raising total amound to 600 million Ecus. Fees 0.175%. (ABN—AMRO House Govets.)
Fixed-Coupons					_	
Argentina	\$7,000	2005	71	100.00	_	Semiannually. Noncollable, With one-year warrants exercisable at 93.30 into Argentina's 94%, notes due 2027. Fees 0.875%, (J.P. Margan Securities.)
Atlas Alr	\$150	2006	93/6	t00.00		Semiannually, Private placement collable at 104,688 in 2002, Fees not disclosed. (BT Alac.)
DSL Bank	\$150	1999	4.85	100.03		Scritigranutilly, Noncollable private placement, Fees 0.04%, Denominations \$100.000, (Memili Lynch Int'L)
Inti Finance Corp.	\$1,000	2003	s	99,372	_	Noncollable, Fees 0.25%, (Merrill Lynch Inft.)
KFW Ints Finance	\$500	2003	5	99.513		Noncollable. Fungible with outstanding issue, raising total amount to \$1.5 billion, Fees 0.25%. (ABN—AMRC) Hourt Govett.)
XFW Intt Finance	\$100	2008	6	100.00	_	Callable at par in 2000, Fees 0.25%. (Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.)
Marrill Lynch & Co.	\$500	2004	6	99.804		Semionnually, Noncollable, Fees 0.375%. (Merrill Lynch Intl.)
Merrill Lynch & Co.	51,000	2018	674	99,509		Semigranually, Noncollable, Fees 0.875%, (Merrill Lynch (nfL)
National Bank of Hungary	\$200	2003	61/2	102.271		Reoffered of 190.6%. Noncollable. Fungible with outstanding Issue, raising total amount to \$50 million, Fees 0.30%. (ABN—AMRO Hapre Govett.)
Ontaria	\$250	2008	5V2	99.952	_	Semionnually, Noncollable, Fees 0.35%, (Goldmon Sochs Infl.)
Petroleos Mexiconos	\$600	2008	938	100.00		Semiounvally, Noncaliable, Fees 1%. (Margan Stanley Dean Witter.)
SFX Entertoinment	\$200	2008	91/0	100.00	_	Semianmolly, Collable at 104.563 in 2003. Fees, not disclosed. (Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.)
World Bank	\$500	2013	54	99.286		Noncollable, Fees 0.375%. (ABN—AMRO Hapre Govett.)
Abbey National Treasury Services	O/A1,000	2009	s	99,41		Noncollable. Fees 0.40%. (J.P. Morgan Securities.)
DSM	DM750	2005	434	101.48		Reoffered of 99.13. Noncollable. Fees 24%. (ABN—AMRO Hope Govefit.)
John Hencock Global Funding	DM500	2008	444	100.71S		Reoflered at 98.59. Noncallable. Fees 24:46. (CS First Baston.)
Abbey National Treasury Services	£150	2004	614	10234	-	Noncollable, Fungible with autstanding Issue, raising total amount to £500 million, Fees 0.30%. (CS First Boston.)
BNG	£100	2021	5-1/8	98.56		Noncollable, Fees 0.45%. (Memili Lynch Infl.)
Fannie Mae	£250	2003	514	99.711	_	Semiannoally, Noncollable, Fees 0.25%, (Morgan Stanley Dean Wifter.)
KFW Inti Finance	E100	2003		101.637		Noncollable. Fungible with autstanding issue, raising total amount to £350 million. Fees 0.25%, (Warburg Dison Read.)
Premier Pub Finance	083	2022	7.153			Quarterly, Average life 18.2 years. Also £40 million due 2008 paying 0.80 over Libor and £25 million due 2026 paying 7.74%. Fees 0.75% Denominations £100,000. (Nomura Securities.)
Reseau Ferre de France	£200	2021	51/2	99_596	-	Noncollable, Fees 0.45%. (Borclays Coputal.)
Tennessee Valley Authority	£200	2021	5.35	99.649		Semigrinually, Nancallable, Fees 0.45%, (J.P. Margan Securities.)
World Bank	£150	200t	534	99.468	_	Noncollable, Fees 0.1875%. (DKB Infl.)
Caisse Nationale des Autoroutes	FF2600	2010	41/2	99.024	-	Noncellable. Fees 0.35%. (Banque Nationale de Paris.)
Finland	ECU500	2003	31/4	99.191	_	Noncottable. After EM1), issue will be fungible with mark-denominated notes. Facs 0.25%, (HSBC Markets.)
	ECU100	2008	4	10t.17S		Interest will be 4% in first year, thereafter linked to the 10-year euro swap rate. Reoffered at 99.70. Noncollable. Fees 110% . (Cabata Holding.)
				00 224		Noncollable, Foes 0.325%, (TD Securities.)
Sunamerica Institutional Funding Ontario	NZ\$250	2008	6)4	98.326	_	heritalmer the retainer
Funding Ontario	NZ\$250 NZ\$250	2008	51/4	99.00		Semicrovative, Reoffered at 97.275. Noncollable, Fees) 1/6%. (RBC Dominion Securities.)
Funding			51/2		=	

Last Week's Markets Money Rates

Nov. 20 Nov. 13 % Chros 9.157.55 8.919.57 + 2.67 30.114 30.637 Unch. 289.95 2871.20 - 1.44 574.97 554.26 + 3.74 1.164.55 1.125.77 + 3.25 1.377.56 1.346.14 + 2.34 574.08 556.17 + 2.86 1.926.21 1.847.98 + 4.34 14779.94 14268.21 + 3.59 5717.50 5463.20 +445 4511,38 4629.65 + 5.87

Euromarts **Eurobond Yields Weekly Sales** \$ Nees \$ Nees \$ Nees 1,422.0 223.1 1,094.1 936.6 \$ 701.5 1,373.8 \$ 82.4 17.164.2 20,990.1 4,491.3 6,479.9 18,278.3 21,985.2

1,002.39 1,042.55 + 1.82 London p.m. fix.s 295.60 297,10

Hong Kong: Government releases Nov. 25

external trade figures for October. Welfington: Government releases report on producer input and output prices for third quarter, overseas trade import figures and preliminary export figures for October.

Brisbane: Roben Champion de

Paris: Government reports unemployment figures for October.
Vilnius, Latvia: Government rele Crespigny, executive chairman of Normandy Mining Ltd., speaks at a breakfast hosted by Securities in es third-quarter government debt fig-

confidence for November.

manufacturing compensation and employment figures for September.
Ottawa: Government releases

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Malaysia Capital Curbs: Risks Remain Despite the Blush

By Paul Blustein Washington Post Service

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KUALA LUMPUR — It has been two and a half months since Malaysia shocked world financial markets by imposing strict controls on capital flowing in and out of the country, and to hear the Malaysian tycoon Francis Yeoh tell it, the

move is already paying off hand-somely in businesses like his.

Instead of backfiring, as the pro-ponents of economic globalization at the International Monetary Fund and U.S. Treasury had not-sosecretly hoped, the controls are saying Malaysia from being destroyed by the Asian financial crisis, according to Mr. Yeoh, managing director of YTL Corp., one of the

country's biggest conglomerates.

Interest rates have come down, from 11 percent to 7 percent," Mr. Yeoh said, "Banks are suddenly starting to do business. The stock market is improving." Mr. Yeon's cament plant, he added, is benefitting from a revival in infrastructure spending.

"There's confidence in home-

buy houses at a project of mine.". The question for Malaysis, though, is whether that rosy glow on some sectors of the economy is a real indication that its vital signs are improving or just the temporary re-sult of a palliative that will do more harm than good in the long run.

Many analysts are betting that Malaysia will eventually me the decision, which stemmed in part from Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad's outrage over currency spec-ulators driving down the value of the country's currency, the ringgit.

Mr. Mahaffur has established

himself as a leader among the critics of unfettered global markets and the International Monetary Fund's orthodox economic prescriptions. The IMF and the Clinton admiristration are eager to discourage other countries from following his lead in imposing controls. They contend that doing so would damage nations' chances of attracting new investment and achieving a lasting recovery.

"The danger is Mahathir will loans."
look good for six or mine months, "Ca

cil on Foreign Relations.

The controls have enabled Malaysia to adopt a stimulative economic policy, including tax cuts and sharply lower interest rates, without worrying that traders would dump the ringgit. That is because, under the controls, it is illegal to withdraw money from Malaysia in less than one year, moreover, the government has fixed the exchange rate at 3.8 ringgit per dollar and prohibited the holding of ringgit overseas.

Critics contend that Malaysia, free for now from the discipline imposed by the corrency markets, is adopting policies that only exacerbate fears about its propensity for grandiose projects and weaknesses in its banking system. Along with the low-interest-rate policy, the authorities have ordered banks to expand lending by 8 percent a year and eased the rules on reporting bad

"Capital controls might have been positive if Malaysia used the

hathir's approach works, and the ine corporations," said Tan Min IMF's doesn't," said Robert Man-ning, an Asia specialist at the Coun-& Co. in Singapore. "But at this point, you can't say with confi-dence that this window of oppor-

tunity is doing them any good."

According to Douglas Paal, president of the Asia Pacific Policy Center, Mr. Mahathir is desperately trying to pump up the economy until next year, when elections are scheduled, because he is locked in a power struggle with his popular former deputy. Anwar Ibrahim, who favors more conventional economic policies. Mr. Anwar is on

trial on corruption and sex charges. Where will they be a year from now, when people can take their money out of the country?" Mr. Paul said. "The economy will be like a balloon popping."

Malaysian officials counter that such doomsaying exaggerates the nature of the controls.

The controls, according to Zeti Akhtar Aziz, the deputy governor of the Malaysian central bank, are "designed to achieve the specific objective of containing speculative There's confidence in home-buying now, too," he said. "Sud-denly I get 3,000 people queuing to region will be saying, Mr. Ma
been positive if Malaysia used the capital." They should pose no con-before controls were in comportantly to buy time for itself to restructure the banks, or restructure.

capital. They should pose no con-before controls were in comportantly to buy time for itself to restructure the banks, or restructure.

particularly foreign manufacturers. And Mr. Mahathir, at a news conference last week, said that since the controls were imposed the government's reserves of foreign currencies bave risen by about \$4 bil-

lion. Even critics concede that this probably means people are keeping their money in the country, defying predictions that the controls would spark illegal capital flight.

But economists say the evidence so far is spotty and inconclusive, and many are skeptical that demand is rising.

"Everywhere, business is down," grumbled Kamal Marican, manager of a Kuala Lumpur jewelry shop, who estimated that customer traffic has dropped by 15 percent since controls were imposed.

The real test of controls will come in the future, when investors decide whether to put money again into a country that turned on them.

'They've shot themselves in the foot," said Stuart Goh, an investment manager at Pacific Asset Manbefore controls were imposed. "We would definitely be very cautious

SHORT COVER

Chinese Army Gives Up a Business

SHANGHAI (Reuters) — The Shanghai garrison of the People's Liberation Army of China has handed over a large military enterprise to the city government, in line with a directive that the armed forces give up commercial activities,

the Xinhna news agency said Sunday.

The concern, Yunfeng Industries Co. — whose businesses include real estate, automobile repair, transport, storage, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, hardware, electrical equipment and building materials - was transferred to the city-owned

Shanghai Ludi Group, Xinhua said.

It is believed to be the first such bandover reported since President Jiang Zemin ordered the army in July to relinquish businesses, in a move to stamp out graft.

China said Friday that its military, judiciary and police would surrender their sprawling business empires by the end of the year.

Hong Kong Property Rebound?

HONG KONG (AP) - Thousands of people swamped a developer's sales office and snapped up apartments this weekend at a new housing development, a possible sign of rebounding confidence in the economy, newspapers report-

Nearly 85 percent of the 1,268 apartments were sold at prices that indicated that the slump in the property market prices had fallen as much as 60 percent since August 1997 -may have bottomed out.

agement in Singapore, which sold its boldings of Malaysian bonds shortly

NEW YORK (NYT) - The U.S. unit of Nomura Securities Co. of Japan has named a new executive team to decide the fate of Capital Co. of America, Nomura's once high-flying but

now money-losing mortgage trading operation.

Nomura appointed Micbael Hurdelbrink, 55, the chief operating officer of its London-based Principal Finance Group, to serve as chief executive of Capital Co. He replaces a team of executives beaded by Ethan Penner, the star bond trader who resigned in September, and Boyd Fellows and Brian Pilcher, whose resignations were announced Friday.

Capital Co. has suffered heavy losses amid the turmoil in debt markets, and Nomura said, without elaborating, that it was weighing several possibilities for the unit.

Russia Crisis Reduces China Trade

MOSCOW (AFP) - Trade between China and Russia fell 6.8 percent in the first 10 months of the year, compared with a year earlier, as a result of the financial crisis that exploded in Russia in August, the Interfax news agency reported Sun-

From January through October 1998, trade between Russia and China fell to \$4.47 billion, according to Russian figures. Russian exports to China fell by 10.2 percent, to \$2.96 billion, while Chinese exports to Russia increased by 0.7 percent, to \$1.51 billion, the news agency said. Before the financial crisis erupted in Russia hopes were high that bilateral trade this year would approach the record \$7.68 billion of trade recorded in 1993. Now predictions are for a 1998 total of \$5.0 to \$5.6

Kuwait Stocks Hit 25-Mont'. Tow

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Stocks fell to a 25-month low here Sunday as investors awaited proposals for an economic reform package to bolster the depressed market. The Kuwait Stock Exchange index dropped 0.6 percent to close at 1,823.8

The Kuwaiti cabinet was discussing changes in the stock market recommended by a committee that includes the central bank governor, Salem Abdnlaziz Saud as Sabah, and the exchange chairman, Hisham Oteibi. The central bank is believed to be urging the government to stick to its current policy of nonintervention in the stock market, which lists 75

BATTLE: Microsoft and Oracle Fight for Database Business

battle to Oracle's home turf by choosing the show as a venue to introduce the newest version of its database program,

SQL (called seque!) Server 7.0.
Stracle, which had just announced an operade to its database, called Oracle 8i. was not about to let its rival make an unchallenged splash in its home market. "We were delighted but surprised by their naïveté at the show," said Mark Jarvis. Oracle's senior vice president for marketing. "Did they really think we were going to let them come here and.

make a database announcement?". While Microsoft is the larger company, Oracle is a far bigger player in the database market. It accounted for 39.3 percent of the \$6.6 billion relationaldatabase market last year, according to figures from Garmer Group/Dataquest. International Business Machines Corp.

followed with 26.8 percent, while Mi-crosoft had 7.4 percent. After Microsoft scheduled its announcements, Oracle responded by returning to Coundex following an absence of several years, and Mr. Ellison arranged to give a speech last Monday night, a day after Bill Gates, the Microsoft charman, opened the show with a presentation and definition of what was being tested, just hours after Microsoft announced. He was particularly proud of a function that allowed Microsoft documents Raw Iron, Oracle's latest attack on Microsoft to be easily transferred into an Oracle

crosoft's Windows juggeonant database, where they could then be For Oracle Si. Mr. Edison comercied accorded by different criteria. the operating system is larger, seperating with the computer's memory and nel work, depending on what you want to use them he said, the Oracle database handles for, said Carolyn DiCenzo, principal most of its operations automorpously. and the existence of a full-fledge op-

fron is supposed to be a refrigeratorsized computer with just the few elements of an operating system necessary

to support Oracle's database.
Of course, a Big from computer could not run anything outside the Oracle data-base, but Mr. Ellison said that half the users of Oracle databases run them on dedicated servers anyway. Oracle 8i can support applications itself, including Web browsers and word processors. Indeed, so many programs could run inside Oracle 8i that you could look at it as an operating system, though Mr. Ellison was careful to say that Oracle was not getting

into the operating-system business. Oracle is negotiating with several manufacturers to make Big Iron. The cost of the systems would be comparable to current servers with Oracle 8i.

Mr. Ellison also used the occasion to trumpet what he saw as Oracle 8i's advantages over SQL Server. He offered \$1 million to anybody who could make a specific research query on SQL run more than 1/100th the speed of the same process on Oracle 8i, which he said had run faster than its Microsoft competitor in every benchmark test ever done, an assertion that depends on your .

analyst at Gartner Group/Dataquest. Oracle executives seemed surprised

Continued from Page 13 erating system slows it down. So Big that Microsoft had not made concessions to network computing, Microsoft seemed surprised they were surprised. "They missed the significance of the Internet,"
Mr. Jarvis said of Microsoft. "All of their actions are distancing themselves away

from the trends in the industry." Mr. Demas of Microsoft saw the opposite. "Our belief is that PC servers running on Windows NT will be the way companies decide to go."

Although Oracle executives gleefully predict that the Internet and the model of networking it inspires will make computer users around the world eager to abandon the tasks of server administration, the reality may be more complex.

Patrick McGovern, chairman of the researcher and financial publisher International Data Group., said that many corporate departments would want to have control over their servers and their data. He predicted that about 65 percent of users would opt to retain the client/ server architecture, while the rest would opt for the megaserver concept.
"The megaserver fights against the

idea of autonomy," he said.
Mr. Jarvis agreed with that. "The only people who want control of the data are the users," he said.

Not a populist, however, Mr. Jarvis said that chief executives and their top technology officers would want to control the information themselves, and that it made sense to centralize the power in a corporation with its leaders.

> E-mail address: CyberScape@iht.com

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Worried About Image, **Microsoft Goes Polling**

By David Segal Washin; ton Post Service

WASHINGTON - Ever since the Justice Department filed suit against Microsoft Corp. in May, government lawyers have tried to paint the company as a corporate predator. Apparently, Microsoft executives want to know if any of that paint is sticking.

The company said Friday that it had hired firms to survey consumers to determine whether the antitrust trial is tarnishing Microsoft's image. The polls, a company spokesman said, are a routine part of efforts to keep in touch with customers and are designed to help Microsoft combat allegations leveled by the Justice Department.

"There have been a lot of allegations and a lot of things said that are untrue," said Jim Cullinan, a company spokesman, "and we want to make sure our message is getting out there as well. And we want to gauge the effect of the constant PR efforts by the government.

Mr. Cullinan did nnt provide details about Microsoft's polling. He would not say which firms bad been retained for the work, bow much the polls cost, what questions were asked or how many consumers had been contacted.

Until recently, Microsoft had a fairly positive image, with most consumers maintaining that the company bad earned its dominant position by dint of superior products and marketing, according to the Washington polister Mark Meliman, whose Meliman Group surveyed the public about Microsoft for Fortune magazine last year.

"The company's image," Mr. Mellman said, "is one of their most important assets, and it must be protected with the same ferocity and care that they protect other assets."

KRUPS

PORT: Harbors Bid

Continued from Page 13

groups and port and govern-ment officials has long allegued efforts to keep Amer-ican ports up to world standards, especially since the 1980s, when most transporration industries were deregulated.

Port and surface transportation officials complain that while 75 percent of the operating cost of a cargo ship is spent on land activity, they did not get to participate in

planning the megaships.

The carriers' approach to the port is, 'We build bigger ships; you figure out how to said Ralph handle them, " said Ralph Cox, a transportation consultant in Boston.

As a result, port developmer has lagged far behind ship development. The advances in vessel

technology have dramatically pointed up the shortcomings in the U.S. infrastructure," said Henry Marcus, chairman of the Ocean Systems Management Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Tech-

rederal spending on port development and on freight transportation in general has ten limited, Mr. Nagle said. The \$221.6 million for ports in the current U.S. budget falls short of the \$330 million needed just to sustain current maintenance projects, he said. The ports themselves spend about \$1.5 billion a year on capital improve-

Other than making lease payments, the shipping lines generally do not help pay for improvements.

But they have the upper hand, because they have more alternatives. Maersk/Sea-Land, for instance, feels no seed to restrict itself to United States ports to serve Amermarkets, said Tommy Waersk Transporting goods into the United States from ports in Canada or Mexico would do just as well, he

As Mr. Pisani of the Transportation Department put it, The shippers can move their assets around, the ports CEN: L

FIDELITY SPECIAL GROWTH FUND Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable

Kansallis House - Place de l'Etuile B.P. 2174, L-1021 Lexambourg . . R.C. Lincemboorg B 20095 (in liquidation)

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is heathy given that an Humantimary General Meeting of Shurcholdens of Fidelity Special Growth Fund Sizav Company") will be held at the registered office of the Company in Luxumbourg on December 2, 1996 at 11.00 a.m. to conthe following agender:

To hear the report of the Anditor to the Equidation.

To approve the report of the Liquidator and of the Andisor to the Equidation.

To grant discharge to the Liquidator and to the Andisor to the Equidation.

To grant discharge to the Directors in office at the date of Equidation.

To resolve the close of the Equidation of the Company.

To resolve to keep the records and books of the Company for a time of 5 years at the registered office of the Company.

To note the accomponents tende for the Maleysian Ringerin which cannot be converted toto a convertible concency as at the close of Rendelation to be distributed to sheechedders as send when they become convertible. And to note the transfer of the proceeds which cannot be distributed to the persons confided to them to the Caises des Consignations (state depository) to be

If you are not able to stood the above Bottsordinery General Meeting, you are urged to execute your proxy and return it to the registered office of the Company prior to the date of the Meeting.

subject to the firminations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation of the Company with argard to ownership of shares which constitute in the aggregate more than three percent (7%) of the cutst Sheetholder may act at any Meeting by protey.

By Order of the Board of Directors



FIDELITY FAR EAST FUND Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable

Kansallia House - Place de l'Etoile B.P. 2174, L-1021 Limembourg R.C. Luxembourg B 16926 (in liquidation)

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that at Estracontinery General Meeting of Shareholders of Pidelity Far East Fund Story ("the Company") will be held at the registered office of the Company in Lastembourg on December 2, 1994 at 1.30 a.m. to consider the following

To hear the report of the Andleys to the liquidation.

To approve the report of the Liquidator and of the America to the liquidation.

To grant discharge to the Liquidator and to the Auditor to the liquidation. To great discharge to the Directors in office at the date of liquidation.

To resolve the close of the liquidation of the Company. To reache to keep the records and books of the Company for a fine of 5 years at the registered office of the Company. To note the arrangements made for the Malaysian Ringgins which cannot be converted into a convertible convency as at the tions of liquidation to be distributed to shanebolden as end when they become convertible. And to note the transfer of the access which cannot be distributed to the persons earlied to them to the Consecution (state depositary) to be

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Subject to the limitations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation of the Company with regard to ownership of shares which constitute in the aggregate more than three percent (2%) of the constants shares, each share is entitled to one vote. A Shareholder may act at any Meeting by proxy. By Order of the Board of Directors July 10, 1998

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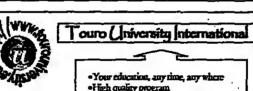
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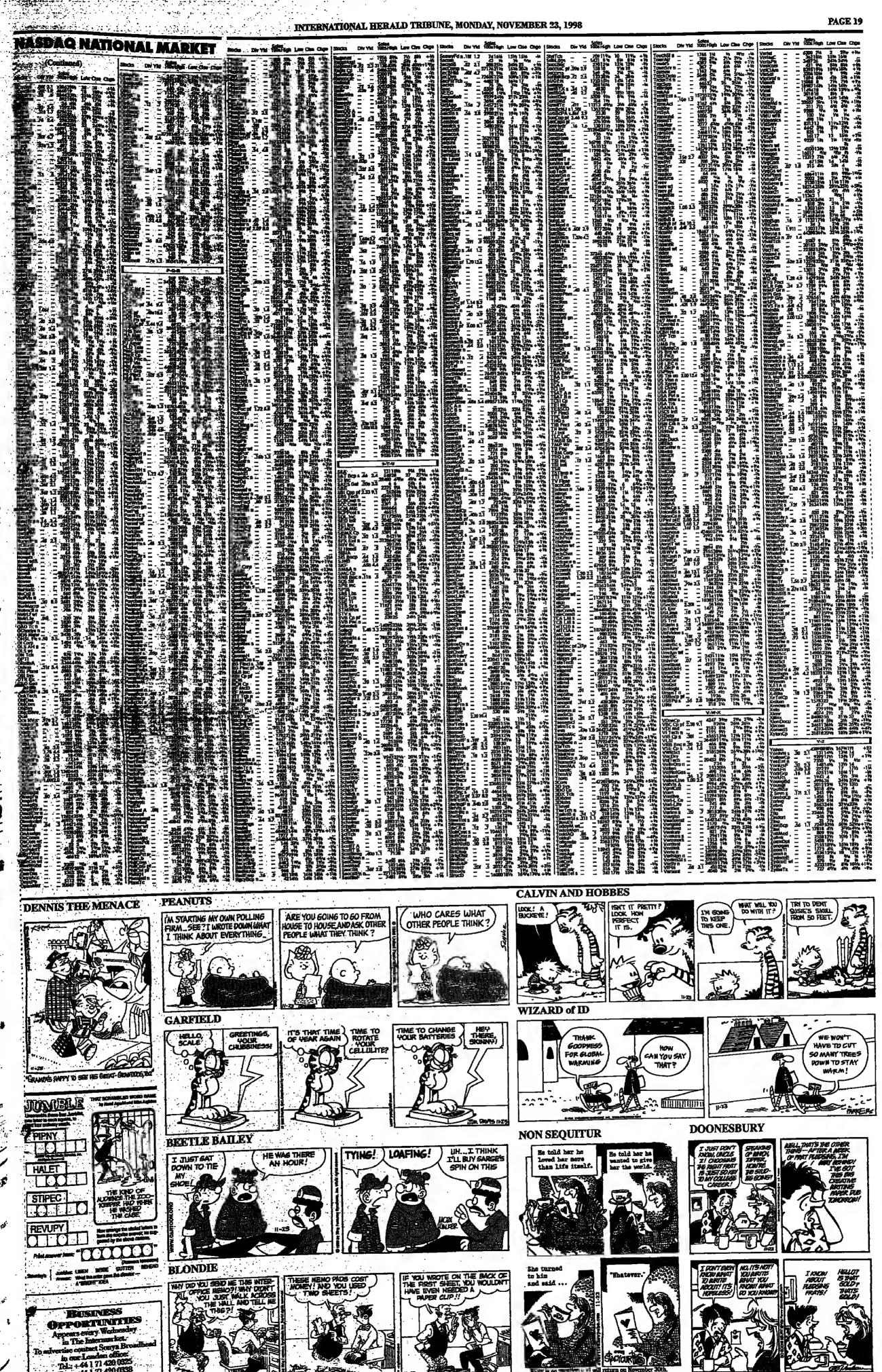
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Fiesta Bowl Hopefuls: Still a Crowd at the Top

Tennessee, Kansas State and UCLA All Win

The Associated Press

The Bowl Championship Series was introduced to provide a clear champion in college football with a showdown between the top two teams. But with three premier teams still unbeaten, the picture remains cloudy.

Tennessee, which started the weekend No. 1 in both The Associated Press poll and the Bowl Championship rank-

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

ings, which will determine who is invited to the Fiesta Bowl, crushed Kentucky on Saturday.

Kansas State, ranked second in the AP poll hut third in the BCS ranking, held on to beat No. 19 Missouri, while UCLA, the AP No. 3 hut the BCS No. 2, beat its traditional rival, Southern Cali-

Tennessee has two more games and Kansas State has one, against Texas A&M on Dec. 5 in St. Louis in the Big 12 championship game, UCLA completes it season Dec. 5 at No. 22 Miami.

If more than one of the unbeaten teams lose, a string of teams with just one defeat - as well as unbeaten Tulane - could enter the Fiesta Bowl

No. 2 Kansas Sate 31, No. 19 Missouri 25 The Wildcats (11-0, 8-0 Big 12), got one touchdown pass and one TD run from their quarterback, Michael Bishop, to complete the first undefeated regular season in school history.
"I can't tell you whether we're the

No. 1 team in the nation or the No. 2 team," said Bill Snyder, the Kansas State coach. "I haven't watched Tennessee play. I haven't watched UCLA

Missouri (7-4, 5-3) has lost 35 straight games to Top 10 opponents over the last 17 years and has lost six straight to Kansas State. But this one was close. Missouri was at the Kansas State 42 when Corby Jones overthrew John Dausman at the 10 with 1:19 to go.

No. 3 UCLA 34. Southern California 17 In Pasadena, the Bruins beat error-prone USC to win their 20th straight game behind 109 yards rushing and four touchdowns by DeShaun Foster.

The Trojans (7-4, 5-3 Pac-10) turned the hall over seven times, including four fumbles in 221/2 minutes, as they lost to UCLA (10-0, 8-0) for the eighth straight

Florida State (11-1) kept alive its hopes of making the Fiesta Bowl as it beat

Florida in Tallahassee.

Peter Warrick had a 32-yard touchdown reception and threw a 46-yard touchdown pass off a reverse as the Seminoles scored the final 17 points.

Sebastian Janikowski kicked three field goals, and the top-ranked Florida State defense limited the high-powered Gators (9-2) to just 201 yards and 14

Penn Claims Ivy Crown

Jim Finn had 36 carries for 188 yards and a touchdown as the University of Pennsylvania won at Cornell to clinch the lvv League cham-

pionship. Cornell gave Penn a scare Saturday with three fourth-quarter touchdowns, but the Ouakers held on, 35-21. The Ouakers scored on offense, defense and special teams. The defense recorded four sacks and four turnovers.

Yale 9, Harvard 7 In Cambridge, Massachusens, Mike Murawczyk kicked a 27-yard field goal to give an outplayed Yale team victory over Harvard.

Brown 10, Columbia 3 Alex Pittz intercepted a pass in the end zone with 1:15 remaining as Brown held off Columbia in New York. Brown oed Yale for second in the lvy

League. Princeton 35, Dartmouth 13 in Princeton, New Jersey. Derek Theisen rushed for 171 yards and two touchdowns in leading Princeton over Dartmouth. (\overline{AP}, NYT)

No. 7 Ohio State 31, No. 11 Michigan 16 In Columbus, Ohio, the Buckeyes (10-1, 7-1 Big Ten) beat No. 11 Michigan for just the second time in 11 years to win a share of the conference title and keep alive their slim Fiesta Bowl hopes. But Ohio State lost a chance to go to the Rose Bowl when No. 13 Wisconsin beat

No. 16 Penn State, 24-3.

Joe Germaine, the Ohio State quarterback, tossed three touchdown passes and the Buckeyes turned a pair of botched punts into scores to beat the Wolverines (8-3, 7-1).

In Starkville, Mississippi, Brian Hazel-wood kicked a 27-yard field goal with seven seconds left as Mississippi State upset Arkansas to take control of the Southeastern Conference West race.

Mississippi State (7-3, 5-2) will win the SEC West otle if it can prevail at Mississippi on Thursday night, or if Arkansas (8-2, 5-2) loses at Louisiana State on Friday.

No. 10 Notre Dame 39, Louisiana State 36 In South Bend, Indiana, Jarious Jackson, the Notre Dame quarterback, passed for 276 yards, ran for 80 more and engineered the winning touchdown drive as Notre Dame (9-1) beat LSU (4-6) to keep alive its distant hopes for a bowl game.

No. 12 Tulene 48, Houston 20 In New Orleans, Shaun King threw a careerhigh five touchdown passes as Tulane and won the Conference USA championship. The Green Wave (10-0, 6-0) accepted an automatic bid to the Liberty Bowl if it is not invited to the BCS.

No. 13 Wisconsin 24, No. 16 Penn State 3 At Madison, Wisconsin, Tom Burke had four sacks, and Nick Davis scored on an 82-yard punt return as the Badgers beat Penn State (7-3, 4-3) to earn a benth in the Rose Bowl.

No. 14 Georgia 24, Mississippi 17 In Athens, Georgia, Olandis Gary ran for 132 yards and two touchdowns, and Georgia (8-2, 6-2 SEC) stopped Mis-sissippi (6-3, 4-4) twice at the 1-yard

Oregon State 44, No. 15 Oregon 41 Ken Simonton ran for a 16-yard touchdown in the second overtime to stun Oregon (8-3, 5-3 Pac-10).

Simonton, who had 157 yards rushing and four touchdowns, broke through line on second-and-one, ran right and barely made it into the end zone.

The Beavers (5-6, 2-6) thought they had won in the first overtime, when Simonton scored his third touchdown and they appeared to stop Oregon on downs. Thousands of fans stormed the field. But a flag was thrown for pass interference, giving the Ducks a first down. Four plays later, Oregon tied the

No. 20 Air Force 22, Rice 16 Mike Tyler returned an interception 26 yards for a touchdown with 8:23 remaining, as the Falcons claimed a berth in the Western Athletic Conference championship

Air Force (10-1, 7-1 WAC) clinched the Mountain Division title and will meet the Pacific Division champion, Brigham Young, for the league title on Dec. 5 in Las Vegas.

No. 21 Georgia Tech 63, Wake Forest 35 In Atlanta, Charlie Rogers scored three touchdowns and Joe Hamilton threw for two other scores as Georgia Tech (g-2, 7-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) grabbed a share of the ACC title and a Gator Bowl bid.

No. 23 Virginia Tech 47, Rutgers 7 In Blacksburg, Virginia, Al Clark threw two long touchdown passes to Ricky Hall in the first half, and Virginia Tech (8-2, 5-2 Big East) returned two of its six interceptions for touchdowns.

No. 24 Syracuse 38, Temple 7 in Philadelphia, Dee Brown ran for two touchdowns, Quentin Harris returned a 47yard interception for another score and Rob Konrad added a 2-yard touchdown ron as Syracuse (7-3, 5-1) beat Temple (2-9, 2-5) to advance to a showdown with Miami for the Big East title.

 In rivalry games among unranked teams, Shaun Alexander scored three touchdowns to lead Alabama to a 31-17 victory over Auburn (3-8), which finished with its worst record since 1952.

In Berkeley, California, Todd Husak threw a seven-yard touchdown pass to Troy Walters and the Stanford defense made it bold up as the Cardinal beat California, 10-3, to win the 101st Big



DeShaun Foster of UCLA, right, eluding Southern California's Grant Pearsall to score from the 2-yard line.

Vols Show No Mercy on Wildcats, 59-21

By Joe Drape New York Times Service

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee - The Tennessee Volunteers didn't stop at kicking a team that was down. They buried the Kentucky Wildcats, 59-21. and with every touchdown cemented their hold on the title of the best college football team in the United States.

They rumbled for 237 rushing yards Saturday, exceeding their 217-yard average, which was already the nation's 14th best, despite losing perhaps the best running back in the country six games ago. Their quarterback, Tee Martin, threw for one touchdown and ran for another and got Tennessee off to its best

start (10-0) in 42 years.
The Volunteer defense, which had given up an average of 12 points a game in its last eight games, defused the Wildcats' high-powered offense, sacking Tim Couch, the Heisman Trophy candidate quarterback, six times for 43 yards.

In overcoming one obstacle after another, including having to come from behind against snakehitteo Arkansas last week. Tennessee has shown that is

the best of the still-unbeaten teams. In 7-4 Kentucky, Tennessee beat a high-quality opponent convincingly— Martin and most of the Tennessee starters were pulled in the beginning of the fourth quarter — while UCLA and Kansas State needed strong efforts to repel challenges from Southern Cali-

fornia and Missouri The Kentucky defense, at least, opened the game as if it might be able to bounce back from a traumatic week of funerals, police charges and late-night practices. The week began horribly for the Wildcats last Sunday when their starting center, Jason Watts, wrecked his pickup truck, killing Couch's best friend, Scott Brock, a student at Eastern Kentucky, and the Kentucky defensive

lineman Arthur Steinmetz. Watts was charged with manslaughter and drunken driving when the authorities discovered he had a blood alcohol content of 0.15 percent, which is above Kentucky's legal limit. Couch served as a pallbearer at Brock's funeral during the week, and the Kentucky team

traveled to the service for Steinmerz. Early in the game, it looked as if the Wildcats' undersized defense held the Volunteers to two field goals even though Tennessee started drives inside the Wildcats' 40-yard line. Couch and his offense, bowever,

showed signs of mental exhaustion. Couch missed on his first four passes and was hammered to the ground by blitzes.

He got on track on the Wildcars' third ion. On third-and-nine at the Kentucky 19, Couch zipped a ball to Kevin Coleman, who was racing down the right side of the field, for 24 yards. Couch completed five of his next seven passes and put Kentucky in the end zone passes and put Kentucky in the end zone on a 3-yard touchdown pass to Lance Mickelson. Kentucky had the lead, 7-6, for the first and only time of the day. From these the game deteriorated into a highlight reel flickering with images of the orange-clad Volunteers running.

np and down the field in perhaps Tennessee's most dominating performance of the season. Martin went arm-to-arm with Cooch, bettering him by 177 yards to 174 in the first half oo 12-of-18 passing. Martin would finish 13 of 20 for 189 yards and add 54 yards rushing; Couch was 35 of 56 for 337 yards.

This Time, It's Defense That Carries The Vikings'

The Associated Press
MINNEAPOLIS — Last time, Minnesota beat Green Bay with an offense led by Randall Cumningham and Randy Moss. This time, Cumningham and Moss were the supporting cast to the defense. No matter. By beating Green Bay, 27-

14, the Vikings demonstrated Sunday why they are the NFC Central's top team and why the two-time conference champion Packers almost certainly. It have to wild card berth to make

the playoffs.

The victory left the Vikings (10-1) three games ahead of Green Bay (7-4) in the NFC Central with five games left. Had they lost, they would have been just a game ahead facing a trip to Dallas in three days for a Thanksgiving Day

game.

Minnesota also has the tiebreaker because it won the first meeting, a 37-24 victory at Green Bay in which Cup-

ningham threw over the Packers defense to Moss, Jake Reed, and Cris Carter. On Sunday, Jimmy Hitchcock's 58yard interception return and Gary Ap-derson's field goal after Tony Williams recovered a Brett Favre fumble gave Minnesota a quick 10-0 lead.

Minnesota a quick 10-0 lead.

Moss, meanwhile, had eight catches for 153 yards, including a 49-yard touched the game for Minnesota. clinched the game for Minnesota.

Giant's 20, Eagles 0 The host Giants snapped a three-game losing streak by beating the Eagles behind a touchdown run by Gary Brown and two Phillippi Sparks interceptions.

Kent Graham also threw a late touchdown in his first start this season, and Brad Daluiso kicked two field goals for the Giants (4-7).

Fiscons 20, Bears 13 Atlanta rallied from a 10-point deficit in the second half as Chris Chandler threw a pair of touchdown passes. But Chandler, prop-ably the team's most irreplaceable player, suffered a sprained right knee and ankle with 6:29 remaining. The Falcons (9-2) finished with 44-year-old Steve DeBerg at quarterback.

In other games: The Buffalo Bills beat the Indianapolis Colts, 34-11; the Dallas Cowboys downed the Seattle Seahawks, 30-22; the Detroit Lions topped the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 28-25, and the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Jacksonville Jaguars, 30-15.

織語の本

Revenue Disparity Has Baseball in a Rundown

By Murray Chass New York Times Service

TEW YORK - When haseball general managers gather each November a couple of weeks after the World Series, they spend several days in meetings discussing issues that affect their game and their teams. The postseason often is on their

agenda.
"There are eight clubs that are talking about postseason rosters." said Doug Melvin of the Texas Rangers. "The other clubs are saying, 'What should I have to worry about that for?'

Melvin exaggerated, hut only slightly. More than eight teams had a shot at the playoffs this year, but that oumber didn't include teams that had payrolls below \$48 million. As the disparity in payrolls grows,

that threshold rises. Relative paupers need oot apply for postseason spots. This year, the Houston Astros were the playoff team with the lowest payroll, \$48.3 million.

Paradoxically, as the price of winning escalates, some payrolls plummet. "Not only are payrolls going up, hut they're also going down," said Sandy Alderson, a long-time Oakland Athletics execuove who recently became Major League Baseball's vice president for baseball operations. "We lose sight of the fact that there are some clubs that are giving up.
"There are those at \$20 million who

say to themselves that going to \$30 million doesn't appreciably change their chances, and there are those at \$30 million who say 'We're no better off at

30 than at 20,' so they go down." This year's payrolls ranged from Baltimore's \$71.9 million to

Montreal's \$2.3 million. The Orioles, with the only losing record among the 13 teams that had payrolls of more than \$48 million, clearly underachieved, hut the Expos didn't have a chance. "Payroll disparity results from revenue disparity and leads to competitive disparity." Alderson said.

Owners and club officials see disparity as the No. 1 problem facing baseball today. "One can't help but be concerned."

said Bud Selig, the baseball commis-sioner. "I've heard the competitive balance thing for a lot of years, and for a long time it didn't play, but as stakes get higher and disparity grows, everyone ought to have concerns." In the labor agreement that emerged

from the 1994-95 strike, the owners and players adopted a revenue sharing plan under which the large-revenue teams would pay money into a pool from which the smaller-revenue teams would receive money. The aim was to reduce revenue differences.

This year, the New York Yankees are expected to pay the most, a little more than \$11 million, while the Expos will receive the most, about \$12.5 million. But those payments won't make much of a deut on what one baseball official said was a \$135 million difference between the teams' revenues.

Jim Beattie, the Expos' general manager, acknowledged that his team probably receives more money than anyone else. Without it, he added, "We might have ended up losing

money." But the fact that the Expos did make some money might rankle the clubs that make deposits into the revenue-sharing pool. "They doo't like giving us money."

Beattie said, "and then we cut back. and maybe make some money. We're not operating for the good of the game right now. We don't want to operate that way. We've been in a survival mode. We can't move from that position until we get some assurance that we're not going to shoot ourselves in the foot all the time."

Donald Fehr, head of the players union, said it would be premature to judge the revenue-sharing plan before it reaches full-scale implementation, which won't happen until the 2000 scason. The plan was 80 percent operational this season.

We are not far enough along so that we can meaningfully judge what is going to happen." Fehr said: "Until we are, we can have our opinions, but they don't mean very much."

EVERTHELESS, John Schuer-holz, the Atlanta Braves' gen-eral manager, did not see the current system as a solution.

"The economic reality," he said, "is that teams that operate in large markets and have more income, generate more revenue, sell more tickets, sell more sky boxes, sell more executive suites and get better support from corporate sponsors are going to have more money to spend. Teams that operate in the bulk of our markets, the mediocre size markets or small markets, aren't going to have that revenue.".

'A new park, Jacobs Field, transformed the Cleveland Indians from a low-revenue team into a high-revenue. team, a potential payce into a payor. under the revenue-sharing plan. Teams: like Milwankee Pittsburgh and Montreal desperately hope new stadrums can work that kind of economics magie for them.

But Melvin related the remark of another general manager that put the new stadium-as-panacea issue in perspective: "He said that is a short-term solution, but in the long term you'll justbe losing in a prettier ball park." c losing in a prettier ball park."

John Hart of Cleveland echoed that

view when he was asked what it would mean if the Yankees got a new stadium. "If the Yankees get a new stadium and enhanced revenues, it's going to be almost impossible," he said: "You should see the Yankees every year in the playoffs and that's not goods for the game." Alderson said the union would most-

likely become involved in trying to find a solution to the problem when it becomes in the best interests of its membership.

"If they find that 80 percent of their players feel they're out of the pennant race even before the seasoo starts, then it's an issue that is common to both of? Jim Bowden of Cincinnati su

ted grouping divisions by revenue, not geography. "Put Cincinnati in with Pittsburgh and Montreal and Florida,": the Reds' general manager said, "and let those teams have a pennant race. It would be a better solution than clubs being eliminated on May 20."

Bruins Edge the Caps in Penalty-Packed Brawl

The Associated Press

in the final 30 seconds of overtime to you want but when you're out there give the Boston Bruins a victory over the Washington Capitals in a game that had six fights and 270 minutes in

The Bruins surrendered a 3-0 lead hut pulled out a 5-4 victory Saturday as Allison scored his second of the

Burns, coach of the Bruins, referring The officials have to use some comto the hrawls. "It's something that mon sense." goes back to last year's playoffs."

eason. scored on power plays and Allison Ten Bruins and six Capitals were scored his first goal of the night. sent to the penalty box in the first both starting goaltenders — Byron Dafoe of the Bruins and Olaf Kolzig

Kolzig said: "It's tough fighting your BOSTON - Jason Allison scored best friend. You can joke about it all it's tough to throw a punch at him. 'I suppose if you go strictly by the rules, the ejections were proper, "said Harry Sinden, president and general

manager of the Bruins. "But suppose "You could feel it when we got a you have the same thing happen the big lead in the first period," said Pat next period: Do you call off the game?

NHL ROUNDEP

The Capitals eliminated the Bruins in first period against the Capitals as Darthe first round of the playoffs last ren Van Impe and Dimitri Khristich

But Washington cut the lead to 3-2 period as 264 minutes in penalties on second-period goals by Chris Siwere handed out. That included a moo, his second of the season, and fight at 11:42 of the opening period Peter Boodra, his seventh. Anson that involved every player on the ice Carter gave the Bruins a 4-2 lead at in the offseason. and saw all of them ejected, including 1:59 of the third period on a shot from

just outside the right circle. Brendan Witt and Steve Konawalf the Capitals. chuk scored third-period goals for the Kolzig and Dafoe are friends and Capitals to tie the game, 4-4.

Coyotes 3, Oilers 2 Rick Tocchet overtime to lead surging Phoenix over visiting Edmonton.

Avalanche 3, Canadiens 2 Valeri Kamensky scored at 3:06 of the third period to put Colorado ahead in Montreal. Peter Forsberg intercepted Vladimir Malakhov's clearing pass and slipped the puck to Claude Lemieux, who fed Kamensky.

Stars 3, Blues 3 In St. Louis, the Blues overcame a three-goal deficit to

The Stars were without Brett Hull. The Bruins took a 3-0 lead in the who suffered a bruised kidney Friday night and did not make the trip to St. Louis. Many in the sellout crowd booed when Hull's name was included in the announcement of the players who were scratched from the game. Hull was one of the most pop-

> Panthers 3, Devils 3 Roh Niedermayer scored the tying goal to cap a six-goal second period as visiting Florida twice came from behind to tie New Jersey.

scored with 52 seconds remaining in Mike Johnson and Igor Korolev scored in the second period as the Maple Leafs snapped Buffalo's ninegame anbeaten streak Sonators 4, Flames 1 Alexei Yashin produced his first two-goal game of the

year as Ottawa beat visiting Calgary. Penguins 5, Lightning 2 In Pitts-burgh, Martin Straka scored twice as the Penguins extended Tampa Bay's losing streak to five games. Islanders 6, Predators 3 Robert Reichel had a goal and two assists as

the New York Islanders snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory in Nashville. Red Wings 4, Canacks 2 Norm Maracle made 28 saves and Brendan

Shanahan scored his 10th goal as Detroit won in Vancouver. Kings 5, Blackhawks 0 Jamie Storr. ular players in Blues history before making his first start in almost six signing as a free agent with the Stars weeks, earned his third career shutout as Los Angeles snapped a six-game

> iting Chicago. Rangers 2, Sharks 2 Jarrod Skalde got his first goal of the season to earn. host San Jose a tie with New York.



Olaf Kolzig of the Capitals, left, and Byron Dafoe of the Bruins wrestling on icc.

المكذا من الأصل

By Peter Berlin

PARIS — On a day of hot heads and cold hands, France allowed victory over cold names, requestioning its frozen fin-The French ruggers led at halftime, that John Eales, the Australian captain, backed four penalties in the second half size his team a 32-21 victory at the Stade de France near Paris on Saurday. A year ago, France lost, 52-10, to South Africa in Paris, The match on Saturday suggested that the European Champion is closing the gap on the Southern hemisphere teams. It domimated for much of the match, but failed

to turn pressure into points. Australia, a bigger and more experienced team, was content to defend for long periods and let the French run the half. Yet, when the Wallabies got near the French line they were dangerous. Daniel Wilson and Thomas Bowman.

a pair of forwards, scored tries in the

etimers earry on.

The French pack responded by seizing control of the game. Most of the first half and the first 15 minutes of the second half were played in the Aus-Findian half. But France struggled to find winger, made one searing break for a second try following a lineout. Christophe Languson kicked the other points as France took the lead. Toutai Kefu replied with a bulldozing

by for the visitors. In the second half, as the temperature dermined by a series of dropped balls.

Australia made a multiple substitution bringing on the forwards Wilie Ofahengane, Owen Finegan and Michael Foley — and finally gained the upper hand against the French pack

- Impable in defense, the French gave way penalties under pressure.
We were made to pay for our lack of discipline," said Raphael Ibanez, the - French captain.

... Where Australia had been largely un-

SPORTS



Mauro Bergamasco of Italy trying to slow the England forward Martin Corry. England triumphed, 23-15.

England Edges Italy in Scrappy Battle

England, the home team, narrowly escaped a humiliating upset when it edged Italy, 23-15, in a scrappy rugby union World Cup qualifier in Huddens-

field on Sunday.

Will Greenwood exploited a fortunate bounce to score a late try to cement

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY

the victory and earn England the dubious honor of a first game against New Zealand in the finals next October. But the victory also means the English will play their games at their normal home stadium in Twickenham west of London. England was hanging on at 16-15 with two minutes to go after the accurate kicking of Diego Domingnez had brought Italy back from 16-6 down. The Italians also had an apparently good try disallowed because the officials did not

have a clear view of the ball. Against the run of play, Greenwood collected the ball and kicked over the heads of two Italian defenders. The ball bounced awkwardly for the Italians but kindly for Greenwood and the England center crossed the line for the matchclinching try, which guaranteed Eng-

land top place in its qualifying group. Italy, which also had guaranteed qualification for the finals, conceded eight penalties in the opening 10

Paul Grayson kicked three penalties and winger Dan Luger scored a try as England built a 16-6 half time lead.

Dominguez, who scored all of his team's points with four penalties and a drop goal, pulled Italy back to 16-15 in the second half.

Iroland 53, Romania 35 Jonathan Bell scored two tries as Ireland won the other World Cup qualifying match this week-end, Saturday in Dublin. Both teams had already qualified for the finals by beating Georgia, the third team in the group. South Africa 35, Scotland 10 South

Africa stretched its winning streak to 16

games with a victory Saturday in Ed-The Springboks, who trailed 7-3 early in the game, caught up on a try by Stefan Terblanche and touched down four times in the second half through the efforts of Joost van der Westhuizen,

Pieter Rossouw, Andre Snyman and Booby Skinstad. Percy Montgomery kicked two penalties and two conversions. All the Scot-

tish points came from Duncan Hodge, who had a try, conversion and peoalty. Scotland debuted three players, in-cluding the Kiwi-born center John Leslie who was joined by his brother, Martin, as a substitute. Their father, Andy Leslie, used to captain New Zealand.

Wales 43, Argentina 30 In Llanelli, Wales, Colin Charvis, a flanker, scored two tries as the home team reasserted its superiority in the second half after throwing away a 20-point lead in the first.

Charvis and Mark Taylor, with tries, and Neil Jenkins, with his boot, had given the home side a 26-6 lead 13 minutes before halftime, but Argentina's forwards inspired a comeback and the visitors were down only 26-25 at the

Agustin Pichot and Felipe Contepomi crossed the Wales try line and referee Alan Lewis awarded them a penalty my when Wales pulled down a scrum. In the secood half, Charvis and Daffyd James scored tries as the Welsh reasserted their control.

Jenkins kicked five penalties and four conversions to become the secondhighest points scorer in international rugby, with 673. Michael Lynagh, now retired, scored 911. (AP, AFP, Reuters)

West Ham Victorious Amid Rash of Upsets

Villa, Manchester and Arsenal Fall Short

Controlled by Our Staff From Desnutches

West Ham United climbed to sixth place in the English Premier League on Sunday with a coovincing 2-0 victory at Derby County.

John Hartson, a Welsh center-forward, put the Hammers in front with a neat side-footed goal after seven minutes, and the visitors controlled the match from then on.

Marc Keller scored his first goal for the club from outside the penalty area to seal the victory in the 72d minute. Eyal Berkovic, an Israeli midfielder, had an

outstanding game.
The victory pulled West Ham within five points of Aston Villa, the league leader, following a series of surprise

results Saturday.

Villa remained three points ahead despite suffering its first league defeat of the season, a 4-2 loss at home to Liverpool. Roboie Fowler scored three goals for the visitors, and Stan Collymore, a Villa striker and former Liv-

erpool player, was sent off, Second-place Manchester Uoited and third-place Arsenal also suffered reverses. United lost, 3-1, on the road against Sheffield Wednesday. Blunders by the Uoited goalkeeper, Peter Schmeichel, and its center-half, Jaap

Stam, helped Sheffield to two goals. Arsenal lost, 1-0, at Wimhledon and also lost Patrick Viera and Dennis Bergkamp to injuries just four days before their European Champions' League match against Lens.

Roy Hodgson, the Blackhurn Rovers manager, resigned after a 2-0 home defeat at the hands of Southampton that dropped his team to the bottom of the

GERMANY Borussia Moenchengladbach won for the first time in 12 matches Sunday, defeating Freihurg, 3-1.
It was the club's first victory uoder
Coacb Rainer Bonhof, a star player

wheo the team dominated German soccer in the 1970s.

Michael Klinkert, Marthias Hagner and Peter Wynhoff scored for 'Glad-

bach, which remained last in the Bundesliga despite the victory. Hertha Berlin handed visiting Bayern Munich its secood defeat of the season oo Saturday, 1-0.

Hertha took the lead playing with only 10 men. Michael Preetz scored the goal in the 68th mioute. Dick van Burik, a Hertha defender, had been seot off in the 60th minute.

The league leader, weakened by the absence of Stefan Effenberg, who was injured. began without the Brazilian striker, Giovane Elber, who had just flown in following the midweek victory hy Brazil over Russia. He came on for the final 30 minutes.

Bayer Leverkusen, which is in second place, destroyed Bochum 5-1. **SCOTLAND** Celtic crushed Rangers, its biner Glasgow rival, 5-1 to revive its pursuit of the Scottish league title.

Celvic, the defending champioo, had slipped 10 points behind Rangers before the game Saturday but it made the most of its chances when Scott Wilsoo, a Rangers defender, was sent off after 22 minutes for a foul oo Lubomir Morav-

Moravcik, a 33-year-old Slovak mid-fielder signed recently from Duihurg, scored twice, as did Henrik Larsson, a Swedish striker. Mark Burchill, a Scottish teenager, scored the other goal.

AFRICA Esperance of Tunisia built 8 3-1 lead over Premiero de Agosto of Angola in the first leg of the African Cup Winners' Cup final.

Muanza Teka put the Luanda military club ahead in Tunis on Saturday, but Radhi Jaidi, Ayadi Hamrouni and Sami Laroussi replied for Esperance. (Rewers, AP, AFP)

■ Sheffield Coach Is Arrested

Sheffield United won its English first division encounter at Queen's Park Rangers oo Saturday but lost John Deehan, its assistant coach, after he was arrested and speot the second half in a police station. Ageoce France-Presse reported from Loodon.

Deehan was escorted from the stadium shortly after the expulsion of a United player, Petr Katchouro. Deehan had previously been warned to remain in his dugout by a police officer,

He was arrested for using "threatening words and behavior," an offense under the Public Order Act. Deehan was released on bail Sunday but faces a hearing Dec. 17.

SCOREBOARD

| CEHOCKEY | Bollon | Donal Tor | Weshington | 0.2.2 0-4 | Tord | Period: Bollon | Donal Tor | Bollon | Donal Tord | Action 1 City Co.

Action 1 City Co.

Action 2 City Philodelphia Philodelphia RLY, islanders N.Y, Rongers

Officer 1 2 8—4
Westington 1 2 8—1
Westington 1 10-1
10 Period; C-Martins 2, 20 Period: CGoodber 2 (Arycolson, Barid, 3, W-Bondra 5
(Milrason; Simon) 4 C-Vashin 3 (Krucchuk,
McEnchara) 5 D-Dacquell 4 (McEnchernYashin) (ppl, 3d Period: None. Shots on goal: C15-14-2-3, W-10-12-12-3-4, Geoffest CGlodes, W-Tabornock,
Palantelphila
Tat Parliad: None. 2d Pealed: P-McGillis 1
(Indres, LeCtar) (pp), 2 P-Sroboda: 2
(Geoffen, Briest-Americ) 3d Period: Carolina.
Shappard 6 (Princess, Kopenson) 4 P-Forbes
14 Sharij (son), Shots in goal: C- 3-7-12--27. Constitution 1 1 2 1 -7
Region 1 3-Revent 4 (Varada, Ward 24
Pagint 3-Revent 4 (Revent, Wooder) 2 7
Region 2 (Kebenin, Bermin) 4 8-Bernsby 2
(Heldinger, Patrick) 34 Perten

ACROSS

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Colorada

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Mactival

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1st Perfect: C-Yalle 2 (Corbet, Podelt) 2d

Perfect: M.-Brunet 4 (Matulthov, Recchi) 2d

Perfect: Al-Brunet 4 (Matulthov, Recchi) 3d

Perfect: Al-Camerally 6 (Lemieux, Forsberg)

4. C-Helduk 2 (Deadmanth, Saffat 5, M.
Matulthov 5 (Reactiv) Domphouse) (pp.)

Shets ed great C-7-11-8—26, M.- 6-7-9—22.

Geoffes: C-Roy, M.-Hockett.

Configuration of Chairbes, Bennard & D-Sydor & Overlines; 9, 18-Allison & (Carter, Heisza)
Hutt, Modono) Shots on gool Man York S-5
S-17; D-18-12-6-26, Southers New York; 3-45, Southers; W-Kohig, Taburocci, B-Taburock B-

S-6-3-1—15, P-10-12-13-4—37, overall ESthulenbow, P-Khobibulin.

Detroit

1 2 1—4

Vescurver

28 Perfect: D-Fedorov 5 (Lidstroin). 24

Perfect: D-Shorathen 10 (Lopolutis, Word) 3.

D-Erfesten 1 (Dropes Kocin) 34 Perfect: O
Yzerman 9 (McCash) 5 V-Klatt 1 (Scotchard, Aucoh) 6, V-Mochail 6 (Mesales) (sh). Shots

be gett: D-9-12-9-30. V-7-9-14—30.

Conflex: D-Marach, V-Saow.

Los Angeles
1 1 3-6
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Augmessed My, 10Mg 7
Purdue S2, Indiana 7
Olduhama 20, Texas Fach 17
Olduhama St. 24, Baylor 10
Brigham Young 24, Utah 24
Idaho 34, Bolse St. 35, OT Northwestern 47, Hawaii 21 San Diego St. 34, Texas-El Paso 29 Stanford 10, California 3

Texas Christian 41, UNLV 18 BASKETBALL

U.S. COLLEGE SCORES FRIDAY RESULTS

THE AP TOP 25
No. 1. Stanford (3-0) def. SW. Attsouri St. 76-51.
No. 5. Alichigan St. 2-17 lost to No. 7 Temple (4-0) 40-69. No. 6. Maryiand (3-0) def. Hofstra 89-59. No. 12. Oktoberna 31. (3-0) def. Hovelii 58-57. No. 19. Arigussas (3-0) def. Virginia 85-83.

Navy 85, Northeastern 72 Florida 82, Florida 51, 66

na St. 58. Hawall 37 SATURDAY REPULTS

THE AP TOP 25

No. 1. Date (9-0) def. S. Carolina St. 120-56.

No. E. Kasses (3-0) def. Fort Hoys St. 91-67.

No. 14. Xnder (3-0) def. Chicopo St. 90-50.

No. 19. Arhumon; (4-0) def. New Maxico St. LEADING COLLEGE SCORES

Baston College 62, Monmouth, N.J. 44
Colgole 83, Dartmouth 66
Cornell 69, Bactonell 56
Cornell 69, Bactonell 56
Georgelown 99, Grambling St. 61
Providence 88, Texas-Pon American 78
quientiplor 54, Colombia 52
LSU 54, Michiesse St. 39
Memphis 90, NE Louisians 50
Mississipp St. 75, Northwestern St. 46
N. Corolists St. 61, Coastal Corolina 56
Chid Deninlen 72, N.C. Charlotte 56
Princeton 61, N.C.-Wilmington 54, OT
Vanidathif 68, Notre Dame 63
Water Forest 81, Mescre 66 Venkerbards 15. Mescer 46 Indiano St. 64, Butler 44 Minneyota 51, Appelachian St. 67 Northwestern 68, Cablond, Alich. 30 Citatoma 68, Copin St. 42 Pice 68, Unigen 44 Citichtomores, Luppen Rice 69, Houston 64 South Fioddor 93, Teasts 76 Texas Cirristics 75, Texas FC AF Force 74, Colo, Colo, Springs 64

Peppendine 52. Long Beach St. 48 St. Marys, Cal. 64, Socramento St. 5 Westmoot 54, UC Santa Barbara 53 Foirfield 93, George McSon 91 BATTLE OF BALTIMORE CLASSIC

Conf. Connecticut St. 88. New Hortopshire 76

PRIDAY REQUITE No. 19 Rutgers (2-1) lost to Colondo St. 71-62. No. 17 Kennes (1-1) del. Alessacionetts 58-49. No. 18 Arienteta (3-1) del. S. Aleberra 95-38. No. 29 Florida (3-1) del. Indicen 27-67. No. 22 UC Santa Bambaria (1-1) logi to No. 25 . Wisconsia (3-9) 103-98. OT.

SATURDAY PESULTS No. S N. Carolina (5-8) del. Fordham 92-50. No. 6 Oute (1-3) lost to No. 11 Notre Denne (3-No. 12 Texas Tect: [1-1) lost to No. 15 Old Deminion (7-6) 95-44 Dominion (2-4) 85-64. No. 16 M. Carolina St. (2-5) del. N. Carolina

CRICKET

AUSTRALIA YS. ENGLAN

West Indies: 316 and 188 Free State: 67 and 412-8

PAKISTAN VS. ZIMBABWE HID ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan: 211 in 50 overs Zimbabwe: 212 for four in 40,4 overs Zimbabwe won by six wickets.

GOLF

DUNLOP PHOENIX

(Jepanese unisea stated: Lee Westwood, Eng. Dorren Clurke, N. 14. Noomich: "Joe" Ozaki 70-69-71-67-277 71-70-65-71-277 69-70-66-72-277 75-67-66-69-279
69-69-66-75--279
70-73-69-48--280
69-71-71-69--280
71-67-70-72--280
70-69-67-74--280

Naomech "Joe" (Zalo Shigeli Maruyena M. "Jumbo" (Zald Jeti Shunca, U.S. Tatsa "Jet" (Zald Fred Funk, U.S. Hidemichi Tanaka Zhang Lizawes, China Bulon Watsa, U.S. WORLD CUP OF GOLF

WORLD CUP OF GOLF
World Cup of Golf final scores on par-72
course in Auctiand, New Zeeland
(sogregate strokeplay):

1. England (David Criter 288, Nick Folda
280) 549; 2. Intyl (Costamino Rocca 280,
Massimo Fiorial 270) 570; 3. Argentina (Angel
Caberra 284, Ricarda Goszaelez 267) 5714Scotland (Colin Montgotnerie 284, Andrew
Cotlant 287) 571 ond U.S. (191n Daly 292, Sosti
Verplank 279) 5715. Ireland (Podnal)
Harrington 287, Paul McGioley 285) 572; 7.
New Zeeland (Frank Noble 291, Greg Tumer
282) and Zimbobere. (Mark McNutly 285, Tony
Johnstone 288) 573; B. Australia (Peter
O'Molley 283, Richard Green 291) 574; 9. Spoin
(Sandiago Luna 290, Miguel Angel Martin 289)
579; 10, Sweden (Portik Sjoland 289, Martinos
Granberg 288), Japon (Akisariaka Kusokobe
280, Martinos 281) 580.

RUGBYUNION WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

ireland 53, Romania 35 England 23, Haly 15 Test marchill Scotland 10, South Africo 35 Woles 43, Argentina 30 France 21, Australia 32

> SKIING WORLD CUP

WOMEN'S SLALOM BATURDAY IN PARK CITY, UTAH 1. Ursko Hrovot, Slovenia, 1 min., 36,91 sec. 2. Sobine Egger, Austria, 1,37,29 2. Some Egger, Assista 137.47 2. Jonico Kostelic, Crodio, 1:37.63 4. Penillo Wiberg, Sweden, 1:37.63 5. Trine Bolida, Norway, 1:37.79 6. Alenko Dovzan, Slovenko, 1:37.91 7. Zai Stegadi, Australija, 1:38.07 8. Notoso Bolida, Slovenko, 1:38.10

9. Deboruh Compagneni, Italy, 1:38.12
10. Vyo Nourer, Sarden, 1:38.27
OVERALL (edtar & aventale 1. Alexandra Melsanitrat, Austria, 180; 2. Andrine Flemmen, Norway, 1:39; 3. Howat, 1:45; 4. Kostella: 132; 5. Maritha Erik Germany, 1:21) 5. Cospagneni, 90; 7. Ania Paersan, Sweden, 84; 8. Egger, 80; 9. Birgit Heeb, Liechterustein, 78; 10. Corimne Ray Belleri, Switzerland, 66. MEDI'S GIANT STALOM FROMY PARK CITY, UTAK 1. Steam Ebernaries, Austria, 2 min., 14.75 soc. 2. Christian Mayer, Austria, 2:15.27 3. Marco Buechel, Liechtenstein, 2:15.68

2, Marco Buechel Liecthenstein, 21:583
4. Kielli Andre Aumorit, Norwor, 21:583
5. Pubrick Holzer, Holy, 21:5,98
6. Jern Koskt, Stovenic, 21:6,06
7. Slegfried Vogledier, Austric. 21:6,06
8. Bode Miller, Franconic, N.H. 21:6,12
1.ose (Sics. Norwor), 21:6,12
10. Milchael Von Gruenigen, Switz. 21:6,17.

TO COLICE THE SHOW PARENTE TO SO PI OF CHANGE THE TOWN OF THE PARENTE THE SOURCE THE SOU

Eberharier, 180 points; 2. Mayer, 130; 3. Immun Maler, Austria, 100; 4. Admont 76; 5.

SOCCER

PSV Eindhowen 5, Utrecht 0 Sparta Ratterdam 0, AZ Alfamour 0 RKC Wootwijk 0, Ajax Amsterdam 1 Feyeroord 4. Combuur Leeuwarden 0 NAC Breda 1, Fortuna Sittard 1 Rodo JC Kerkrade 3, VResse Amhem 1 Grantschap Obelinchem 1, Heerenveen Twente Enschede 5, Willem 11 Tilburg 1 MVV Maastricht 8, NEC Nijmagen 3

STANDINGS: Feyenbord 32 poi Amsterdom 31; Heerenveen 29; Twente En-schede 28; Vijesse Amhem 2a; Rodo JC Kerkrade 24: NEC Nijmegen 23: PSV Eind hoven 22: Willem II Tilburg 22: AZ Alkmad 20: MVV Maastrichi 17: Graafschap Doei inchem 14: Utrecht 15: Sparta Patterdam 12:

NAC Breda 10; Cambuur Leeuwar Fortung Sittord 10; RKC Waghvijk 6. Derby County Q, West Hom United 2

Blackburn B. Sorimanphon 2 Leeds 4, Chortion 1 Leicaster 2, Chelsen 4 Middlesbrough 2, Coventry 0 Sheffleld Wednesday 3, Manchester Toffenham 2, Northagham Farest 6 Wirnblodon 1, Arsenal 0

STANDENGS: Asion Villa 28 points: Aanchester United 25: Arsenal 24; Chefsea Monchester 1 Mon 23: Middleshroug 22: Leeds 22; West Hom 23: Middleshroug 22: Wimbledon 20: Liverpool 19; Tattenhor 19; Derby 18; Leicester 17: Chariton 14; New castlo 14: Sheffield Wednesday 15: Coventh 14: Everton 12: Nothingham Forest 10 Southampton 10: Blackburn 9.

Lens 1. Bastle 0 Nancy 1, Le Havre 0 Auxerre 1, Metz 0

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA GERMAN BURDESLIGA
EInfrach Frankfurt D. Werder Bramen 2
Schotte 2: Dusburg 0
VIL. Bochum 1, Boyer Loverkusen 2
FC Nuremberg 1, VfL. Wolfsburg 1
Herito Berlin 1, Boyern Munich 0
VIB Stuttgart 1, Harsa Rastock 1
1860 Munich D, Hamburger SV 0
FC Koisenstautem 1. Borussia Oortmund 0
Borussia Moenchengladbuch 3, Freiburg 1
**TEMPROMES. Brown Munich 1) borther

STANDSHOLS: Boyern Munich 31 points: Boyer Levertusen 29: 1860 Munich 27: FC Kaiserslautern 27: VfL Wolfsburg 21; Herfind Berlin 20: Borussia Dorfmund 19: Homburger ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION

Florentino 3. Inter Milan 1 Juventus Q. Empoli O Salemitana 1. Venezia O ampdaria 🕽 Vicenza 🖰 Udinese 1. Piocenzo 0 Balagna 1, Perunia 1 Cogliari 1, Parma 0 AS Roma 1, Ban 1 Nase Florentino 21 points: Roma

18: Juventus 18: Parma 14: Milan 15. Cegliari 14: Balogna 14: Internazionale 14: Lazio 13; Bari 13: Udinese 13: Perugia 12: Sampdoria 12: Piacenza 11; Empell 10: Vicenza 10: SCOTTISH FRIMING LIABUT Aberdeen 0. St. Johnstone 1
Celtic S. Rangers 1
Dundee United vs. Dundes. ppg.
Hooris 2. Dundermäne 1
Kilmarnock Q. Motherwell 0

Osportivo La Coruno 2, Villorreal 1 Salamanco 1, Extremodura 2 Atletica Madrid 6 , Valladolid 1 Real Sociedad 0, Real Zaragoza 0 Altrees 2, Cetto Vigo 0 Mallorco 1, Barcelono 0 Oviedo 0, Real Batis 1 Valencio 3, Real Madrid 1

Tenerife O. Athletic Bilboo STANDHOSE Mollorco 22 points: Cetto Vigo 20: Barcelona 19; Real Modrid 18; Valencia 18 Atletico Madrid 17; Deportivo voiencia ilis Anterico Madria III: Deportivo Coruna 17: Real Zoragoza 16: Racing Sont-ander 18: Oviedo 15: Valladolda 15: Real Beris 14: Athletic Biltona 13: Real Sociedod 13: Es-panyol 12: Alaves 12: Salamanca 11: Es-tromadura 11: Villarreal 10: Tenerite 10. durs 11; Villarreal 10: Tenerife 10.

APRICAN CUP WHEREES' CUP-

TENNIS CHASE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mortina Hingis (2), Switzerland, def. Mary Pierce (6), France, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4. SEMFINALS Dayenpart def. Steffi Graf, Ger. 6-1, 2-4, 6-3.

Nathalle Touziat and Alexandra Fusal, France (4), def. Yayuk Basuki, Indonesia, and Caroline Vis, Netherlands, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

ATP DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP NH HARTGER, CONN.
GREEN GROUP

Jocco Eilingh and Paul Haarhuts, Notherlands (1), der. Mark Woodforde and Todd
Woodbridge (3), Austraßa. 7-6 (7-3), 6-4.
Olivier Delaitre and Fabrice Santora. Fr.
(7). del. Effis Ferreira, S. Africa. and Rick
Leach. U.S., (5), 7-6 (7-1), 4-6, 7-6 (7-3).
GOUG BROUP

Leach, U.S., (5), 7-6 (7-1), 4-6, 7-6 (7-3).
GOUG GROUP

Joshua Eagle and Andrew Florent, Australia, def. Mark Knowles, Bahamas and
Daniel Nestor, Canada (4), 7-6 (7-5), 6-0.
Don Johnson, U. S. and Franskas
Monlana, U. S., (8), def. Sandon Stalle, Australia, and Cyril Suk. Czech Republic (6), 6-7
(6-8), 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-4).

SEMINALIS.

SEMIRMALS
Eltingh and Hoarhuis def. Johnson, and
Mantara (8), 7-6 (7-1), 6-4.
Knowles and Nestro def. Delaitre and Santora (7), 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Julie Halord-Decupis (2). France def. Kristina Brandi, Bradenton, Fla., 6-0, 6-1. Li Fang (5), China. def. Silvija Tolaja, Croa-tia, 6-3, 6-3.

TRANSITIONS BAFFRALL

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

BALTIMORE—Bought controcts of C Chip
Alley, INF Ivanon Coffie, INF Jesse Garcia,
LHP Carios Medina and RHP Gobe Molina
Inon their minor league teams.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Claimed RHP
Owaryne Jacobs off waivers from Alfanta. Added P Kevin Beame. P Dovid Lundquist. Of
MCKoy Christensen, 18 Jeff Liefer and C
Josh Pool to roster.
CLEVELAND—Reference LHP Jeson Jocame. Added LHP Jimmy Hamilton, RHP Wilfie Moritinez. RHP Richard Negarithe. RHP
J.D. Brammer, 55 John McDonaid and Of
Danny Peoples to the raster.

GETROTT—Bought contracts of RHP Dave

Indiny Peoples to the rester.

a ETROIT—Bought contracts of RHP Dave
Borkowski and INF Carlos Volknichos from
Jacksonville 5L >

R.Y. YAMKES—Designated RHP Joe
Borowski for assignment. Bought contracts of
55 D'Angela Jimenez, and RHP Luis DeLossantos from Calumbus. IL. Losantos from Columbus. IL

qaxLand—Agreed to terms with RHP Tim

Worsell on 1-year contract. Bought contracts of

38 Dimedo Scenz from Colgory, PCL_C Denny

Artoln. OF Mario Encornacion, RHP Burth
Ladon. INF Jose Offiz from Huntsville. St.,

and RHP Carl Date and RHP Luis Vizcolno

from Modesto. CL. Sent RHP Tom Bermett

and Ceorge Williams to Edmonton, PCL.

SEATTLE—Wolved RHP Bob Wells and

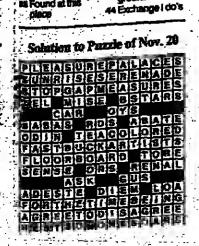
LHP Tim Davis. Designated OF Ryan Rad
monovich for posignated. Collaged Of Kerny monorist for ossignment. Claimed Of Kerry Robinson off walvers from the Tampa Boy. Added LHP Brian Fuentes, RHP Agran Scheffer, RHP Dennis Stark and RHP Com

Smith to restor.

TEXAS—Bought contracts of RHP Dentick
Cook LHP Doug Davis, LHP Mile Venatro ond IB Shown Gallagher from Oklohoma City, PCL. Bought contracts of LHP Corny Lae, C Cesor King, SS Kelly Dransfeldt, DF Ruben Mateo and OF Mike Zywko from Tusta, TL. Claimed INF Jon Shave off waivers from Min-Cloimed INF Jon Shave off waivers from Min-nesota, Assigned RHP Mark Brandenburg and OF Scarborough Green to Oklohoma City, PCL. Agreed to terms with RHP Eric Moody.

FOOTEALL NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE MHL—Suspended Washington LW Richard
Zednik for 4 games and fined him \$1,000 for high-sticking incident with Teresta Leals O Danik Morkov in gome on Nov.18.: AMARTIM—Recalled 'RW Frank Bersham and C Josef Martin from Cinciment, AHL. FLORIDA-Recoiled LW Dwayne



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Friendships in The Intermerket

Astrofile, 93-25, Ho: 17 Kames (2-1) del: Minnesote d2-52, CT. Ho: 18 Arimnées (4-1) del. Louisville 70-61, No. 23 Nobranio (3-6) del. Wisconsin-AAJ

Herald Eribune SPORTS

WORLD ROUNDUP

Deal for Yankees Reportedly Agreed

BASEBALL George Steinbrenner has agreed to sell the New York Yankees to Cablevision Systems for about \$600 millioo under a deal to take effect Jan. 1, according to

Steinbrenner will continue to run the team under the agreement, the American network said Saturday.

Cablevision owns Madison Square Garden and the New York Knicks and New York Rangers. The purchase of the Garden and its properties included MSG Network, which paid the Yankees \$486 million over 12 years for broadcast



Mark Butcher of England hooking the ball for four runs. He was dismissed for 116.

Butcher Steadies England

CRICKET Mark Butcher made 116 as England fought back Sunday on the third day of the first test match against Australia in Bris-

The visitors advanced to 299 runs for four wickets in reply to Australia's first innings total of 485

before rain stopped play.

• Zimbabwe gained its first one-day victory on Pakistani soil Sunday in Sheikhupura. Pakistan batted first and was all out for 211 in me sum over.

Zimbabwe reached the target for the loss of four wickets in 40

Frenchman Wins Slalom

SKIING Pierrick Bourgeat woo the first World Cup race of his career Sunday, when he won the opening slalom of the season in Park City, Utah. He finished 0.42 ahead of Hans-Petter Buraas of Norway. Bourgeat had been 14th after the first run.

Fiorentina Maintains Lead With 3-1 Victory Over Inter

Ajax Reaches 2d Place in Dutch League; Mallorca Wins

ROME - Fiorentina fought back to beat Inter Milan, 3-1, Sunday and remain atop Serie A.

Inter took the lead in Florence after just three minutes when Roberto Baggio, making just his second start of the season because of knee-tendon problems, was brought down in the penalty area by Francesco Toldo, the Fiorentina goalie. Youri Djorkaeff then scored on the penalty kick.

English and Bundesliga results. Page 21.

Fiorentina tied the score within two minutes, as

the defender Pasquale Padalino slammed in a loose ball when Inter failed to clear following a corner kick. Gabriel Batistnta put Florence ahead, 2-1, with his league-high 1 th goal of the season. The Argentine striker drove a low, free kick through the defensive wall in the 16th minute

Jorg Heinrich, a German defender, finished the scoring in the 75th minnte with his first goal in

Inter played without several injured players, including three attackers: Ronaldo, Nicola Ventola and Francesco Moriero. Baggio left after 68

"My team was balanced and intelligent - we fully deserved this victory," said Giovanni Trapat-toni, the Fiorentina coach who led Inter to its last league title, in 1989. "If we keep playing like this, we can fight for the title." The victory moved Fiorentina three points ahead

of AS Roma and Juventus of Turin, the defending champion, which played a drab 0-0 draw with Empoli.

"It was ngly," said Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach, after his club was shnt out for a second straight game. "We didn't play well and

failed to create any scoring chances. The Turin club has oot scored since its star striker, Alessandro Del Piero, went down with a

season-ending knee injury. Empoli, tied for 15th place, was more dangerous in attack but wasted three golden scoring chances in as many minutes early in the second half.

Roma rallied for a 1-1 draw with Bari on Sat-

urday in a game that generated controversy Sunday. Francesco Totni, the Roma captain, admitted that he fell to the ground on purpose to draw the penalty that gave Roma a draw.

With nine minutes to play, Livio Bazzoli, the referee, called the foul when Totti went down just inside the penalty area after light contact with Rachid Negrouz, Bari's Moroccan defender. Roma was trailing 1-0 at the time.

"I was ahead of Negrouz and, as soon as I felt

contact. I threw myself to the ground," Totti said.
"The referee could have given the penalty or let the action continue. Maybe the fact that we were losing had an influence."

METHERLANDS Ajax moved up to second in the

Dutch league with an unconvincing 1-0 victory over RKC Waalwijk, the last-place team.

The winner came in the eighth minnte when

Ajax's most experienced player, Danny Blind, was set up by its least experienced player, the teenage striker Brutil Hose, who was playing his second

Bobby Robson's fast-improving PSV Eind-hoven dismissed FC Utrecht, 5-0, on an extremely slippery field. Abel Xavier, a Portuguese defender, headed PSV in front at the 22-minute mark from a free kiek, but the match turned on an incident that occurred a minute before the break.

Bernard Schuiteman, a defender making his debut for Utrecht after his recent transfer from Feyenoord, pulled down Raud van Nistehooy in the penalty area. Schuiteman got a red card and Van Nistelrooy got up to convert the penalty. Robert Fuchs, Van Nistelrooy and Gilles de

Bilde completed the scoring. Feyenoord, the league leader, beat Cambuur Leeuwarden, 4-0, on Saturday night. SC Heer-



Jorg Heinrich of Fiorentina, right, defending Sunday against Aron Winter of Inter Milan.

enveen, which started the weekend in second place, drew, 1-1, at De Graafschap Doetinchem. SPAIN Real Madrid, Barcelona and Celta Vigo all lost Saturday as Real Mallorca regained first place. Sergi Barjuan, a Barcelona defender, scored

an own goal to give Mallorca a 1-0 victory. Celta, which started the weekend unbeaten and first place, lost, 2-0, to struggling Alaves.

Claudio (Piojo) Lopez, an Argentine striker, scored twice as Valencia beat Real Madrid, 3-1. On Sunday, Deportivo downed Villarreal, 2-1, while Salamanca beat last-place Extremadura by

In the highest scoring match of the weekend, six players scored for Aletico Madrid as it thrashed Valladolid, 6-1. (AP, AFP, Reuters) (AP, AFP, Reuters)

■ Juventus Wants Venue Changed

Juventus players demanded Sunday that the

European Champions League match against Cal-atasaray not be played in Istanbul, as scheduled, Agence France-Presse reported from Turin.

The Italian and Turksh governments are at loggerheads because Italy is considering giving political asylum to the Kurdish rebel leader Ab-dullah Ocalan. The crisis has whipped up anti-Italian sentiment in Turkey. Italian sentiment in Turkey.
UEFA_the governing body of European soccer,

is to make a decision on Monday.

Gianni Agnelli, the Juventus owner, urged UEFA to spare his team the trip to Istanbul. "There is clearly a risk," Agnelli said.

Carter's Putt **Seals Victory** For England

WHANGAPARAOA, New Zealand

David Carter made a birdie putt on the 18th hole to cap a 4-under-par 68 and clinch England's first World Cup of

final-round 69, finished with a total of 568 strokes, two better than Italy.

The United States, Scotland and Argeotina tied for third at 571 strokes for the four rounds on the 6,850-yard Gulf

Harbor Country Club course. Carter and Faldo collected \$200,000 each from the total purse of S1.5 mil-

Carter, who won his first European PGA Tour event this year, took some pain medication and weot through a session of physiotherapy each day of the tournament because of a rotator cuff problem in his right shoulder.



David Carter celebrating his birdie putt that gave England victory.

"I said to myself, "Well this is it, this is your first chance to win it," " he said. Scott Verplank of the United States shot a nine-under 63 Sunday to match the course record set hours earlier by Patrik Sjoland of Sweden. Verplank finished as the individual champion with a nine-under 279 total, one stroke ahead of Faldo and Costantino Rocca of Italy, who elosed with a 70.

Hingis Takes Revenge on Davenport

NEW YORK - Martina Hingis finished the season Sunday by beating the woman who took her No. I ranking. Hingis beat Lindsay Davenport, the No. I seed, 7-5, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 in the final

of the Chase Championships. Hingis ended a six-month title drought with a convincing victory to claim one of the few big titles she had

With the victory, Hingis avenged her player who last month also took over the top ranking that Hingis had held for 80

consecutive weeks. "She kicked me out of the top spot but I'll be definitely fighting for it oext year," said the Swiss teenager after accepting her trophy and a check for \$500,000.

Hingis finished the year with five titles, including the Australian Open, and \$3,175,631 in tournament earn-

'It's been a great year, especially the last six months," said Davenport, who won a tour-leading six titles in 1998,

five of them since July.

"I'm a little disappointed about how I ended the year, but I'll get over it in a few hours," added the 22-year-old American, who picked up \$250,000 as runner-up and another \$100,000 for winning the doubles Saturday with Natasha Zvereva.

On Saturday, Davenport ended Steffi Graf's 12-match, two-fournament tear.

Davenport poured on the pressure in the final stages of their semifinal and outworked the German, 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

The match took one hour, 37 minutes to resolve and turned on the sixth game of the final set when Graf, who seized: just five of the 14 break opportunities

she was allotted, let Davenport escape from a 0-40 deficit. "I gave it everything I had in the past 7). three weeks, and that was a lot; in the end, I guess it was a little too much,"

said Graf, who said her footwork deteriorated after she pulled a muscle in the back of her right thigh during that all-important sixth game. "Sore, I'm

disappointed." In the decisive third set, the first four

Graf held service in the fifth game, she had three break points on Davenport's next serve. .

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She was incensed with herself for letting Davenport scramble out of a 0-4, deficit to hold for 3-3, and the instant Davenport's forehand winner ended that game, Graf hustled to the sidelines and summoned a trainer to tape her right

thigh.
Then, after saving one break point ted a forehand on Davenport's second break opportunity, and the limping Califorman took a 4-3 lead that turned out to be pivotal when she backed it up with an ace at game point for a 5-3 lead.

Hingis beat Irina Spirlea, 6-2, 7-6 (9-Hingis ripped through the first set in 22 minutes. In the second set, Spirlea won five consecutive games for a 5-1 lead before Hingis matched her with a

five-game streak of her own.

Spirles led 6-4 in the tie break, but she made a series of errors on her backhant to allow Hingis to win. (AP, NYT)



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